

MARVEL



SPIDER-MAN

BY TODD MCFARLANE

SPIDER-MAN



MCFARLANE
71
MASON

BY TODD MCFARLANE

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SPIDER-MAN

BY **TODD McFARLANE**

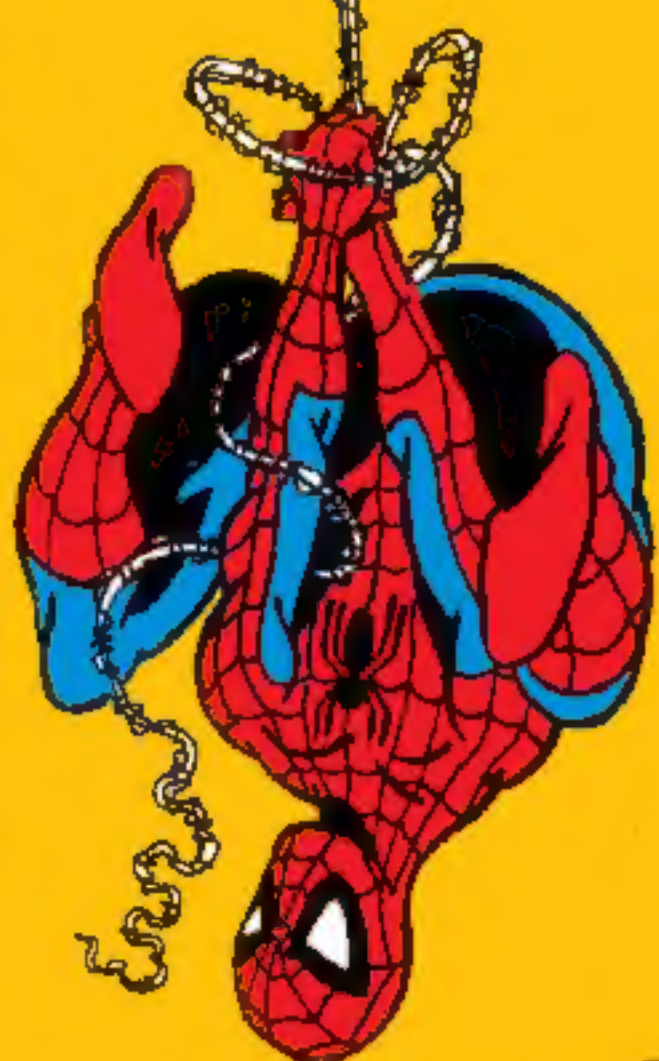
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AUTHORITY

1ST ALL-NEW COLLECTOR'S ITEM ISSUE! SPIDER-MAN

THE LEGEND
OF THE
ARACHKNIGHT

"TORMENT"
PART ONE OF FIVE

McFARLANE
?



THE
CITY.

NEW
YORK.

LITTERED
WITH
TOWERING
CONCRETE
GIANTS
THAT SEEM
TO SWALLOW
UP THE SKY.

THEY ARE
SILENT--

--FROZEN--

--MAN-
MADE
GUARDIANS.

BELOW IS
WHERE THE
CITY'S
HEARTBEAT
IS.

PEOPLE
SCURRY
ABOUT
THEIR
BUSINESS.

OBLIVIOUS
TO THE
CROWDS--

--THE
CONGESTION--

--THE
PRESSURE--

YET--

-- AT TIMES,
SOME WISH THEY
COULD--

--RISE ABOVE
IT ALL!

HIS NAME--

SPIDER-MAN!

HIS POWERS--

EXTRAORDINARY!

HIS WEBLINE--

ADVANTAGEOUS!

BELOW, THE PEOPLE
CONTINUE TO SCURRY.

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

TORMENT

PART 1

ARTIST-
WRITER

TODD
McFARLANE

LETTERS
RICK PARKER
COLORS
BOB SHAREN
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EDITOR
CHIEF
TOM DeFALCO



SOON IT IS
NIGHT.

A TIME FOR THE
SCUM AND
VERMIN TO
PLAY AMONG THE
SHADOWS.

I SAID
GIMME THE
PURSE.

LISTEN, LADY--
IF YA WANT ME TO
POP YA IN THE
FACE AGAIN--

please.

-- THAT'S FINE
BY ME --

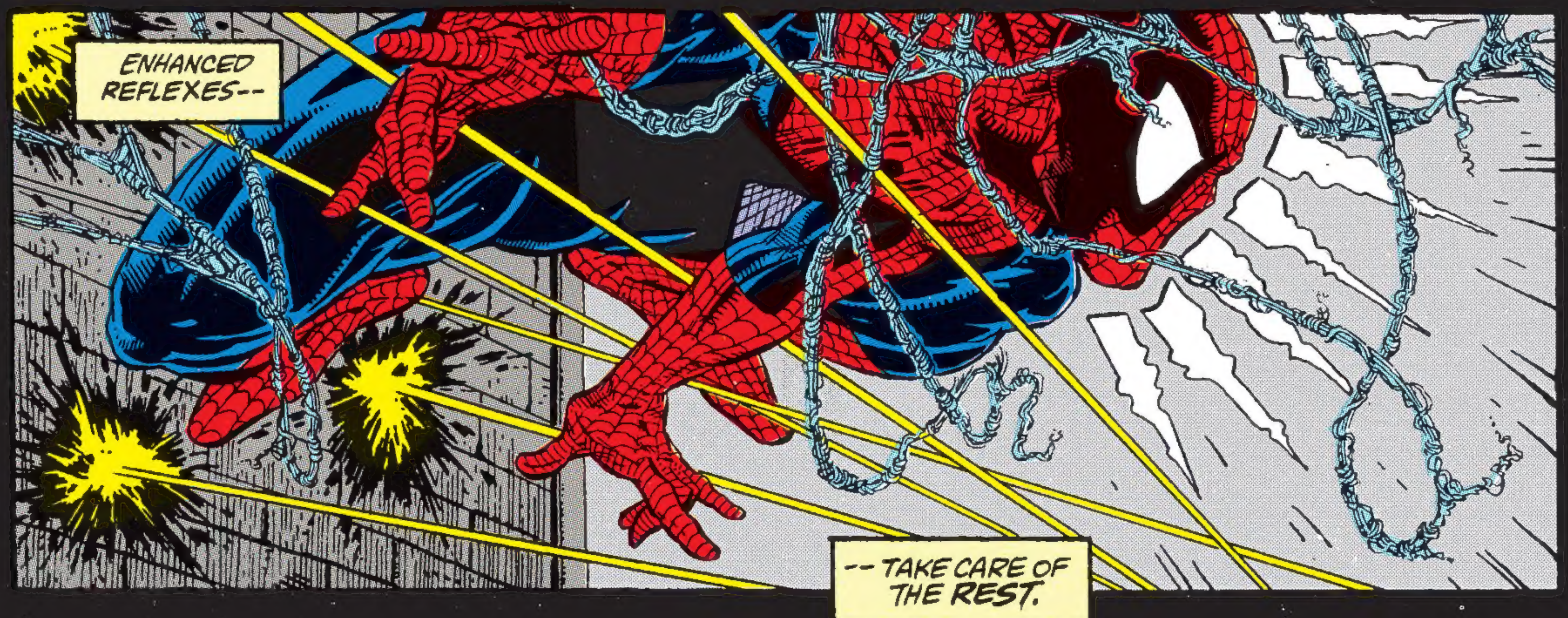
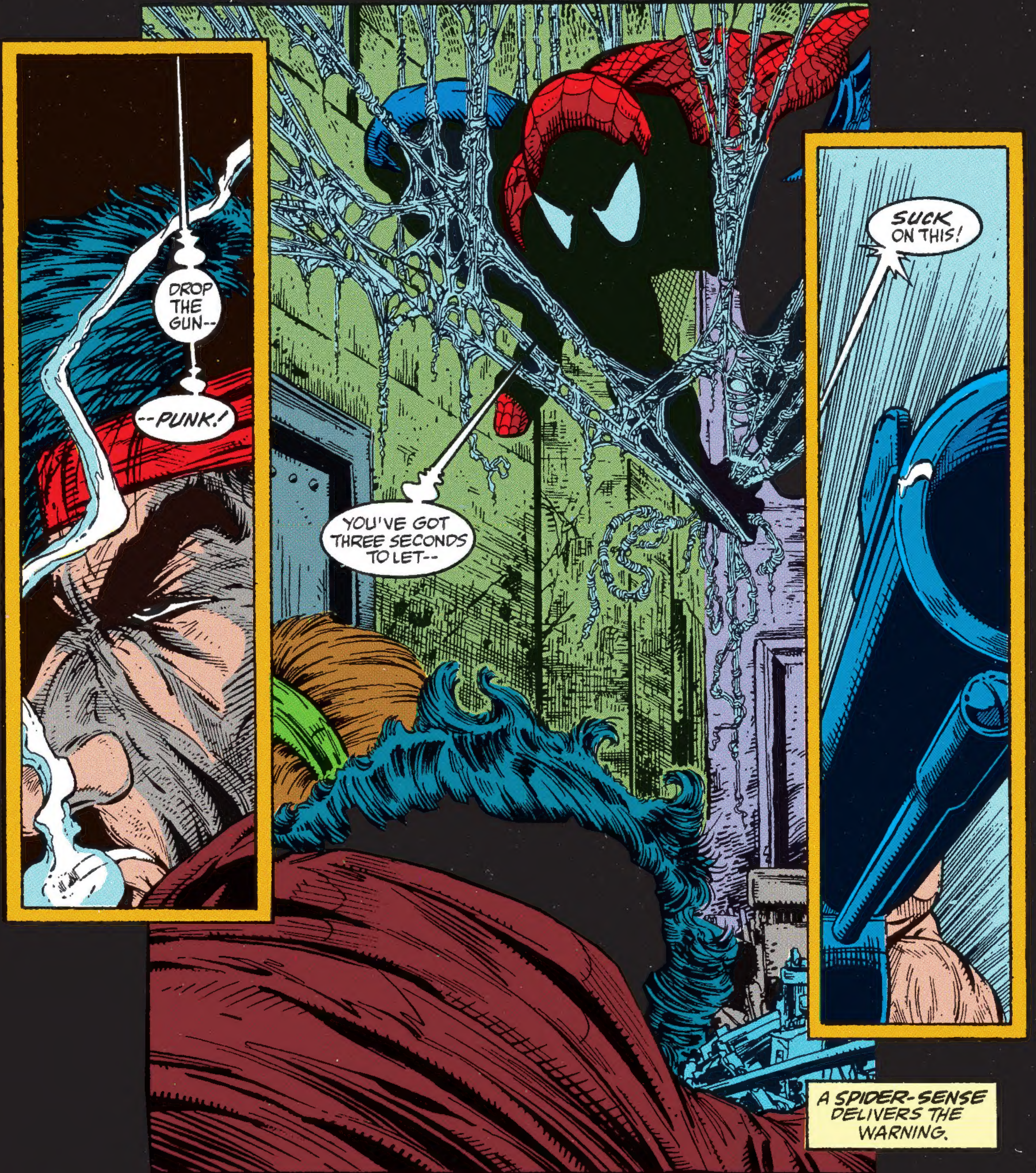
-- BUT, I'M
TRYING TO
BE NICE
ABOUT THIS.

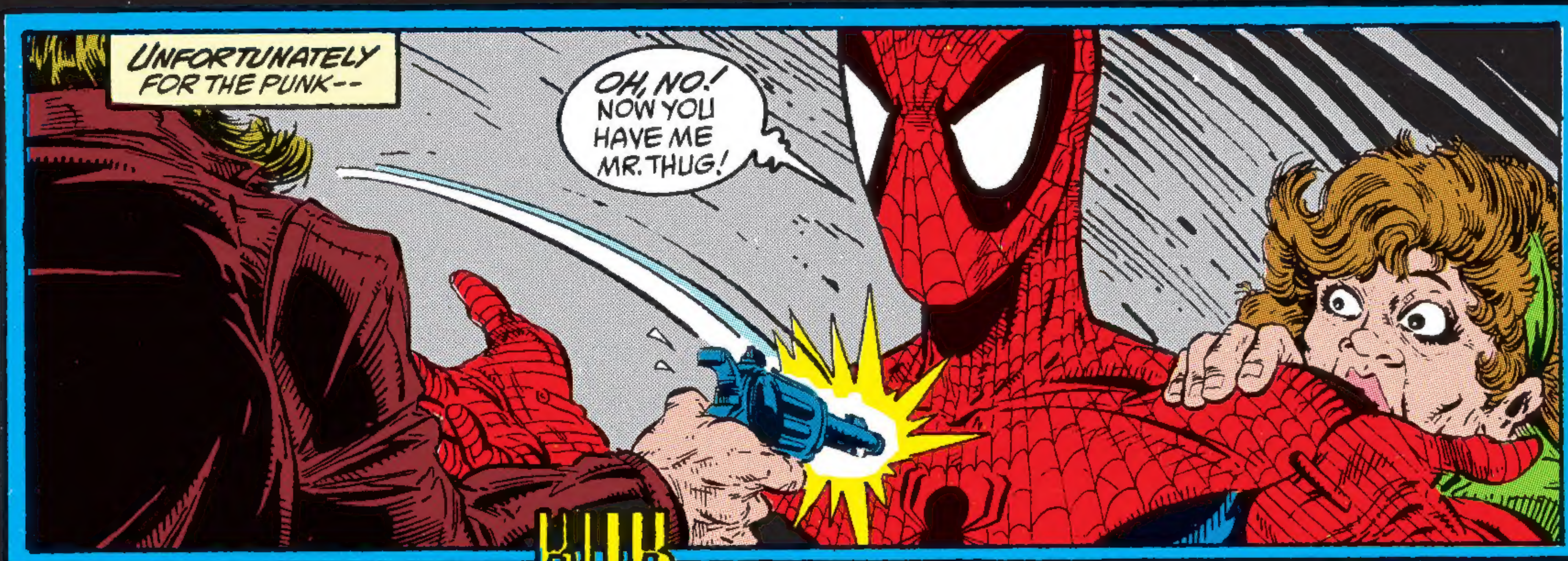
IT IS ALSO A TIME
WHEN SHADOWS
MOVE.

WHEN THINGS
START TO
CRAWL.

THINGS
LIKE--

-- SPIDERS.



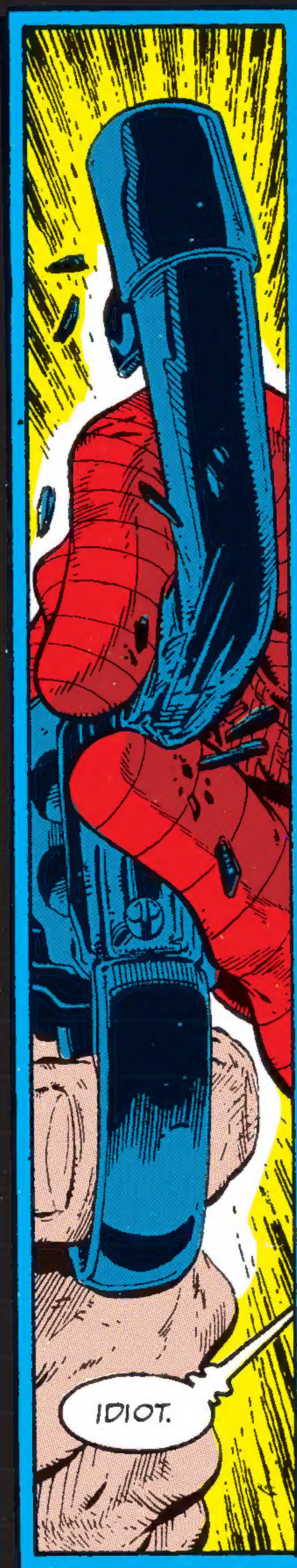


UNFORTUNATELY
FOR THE PUNK--

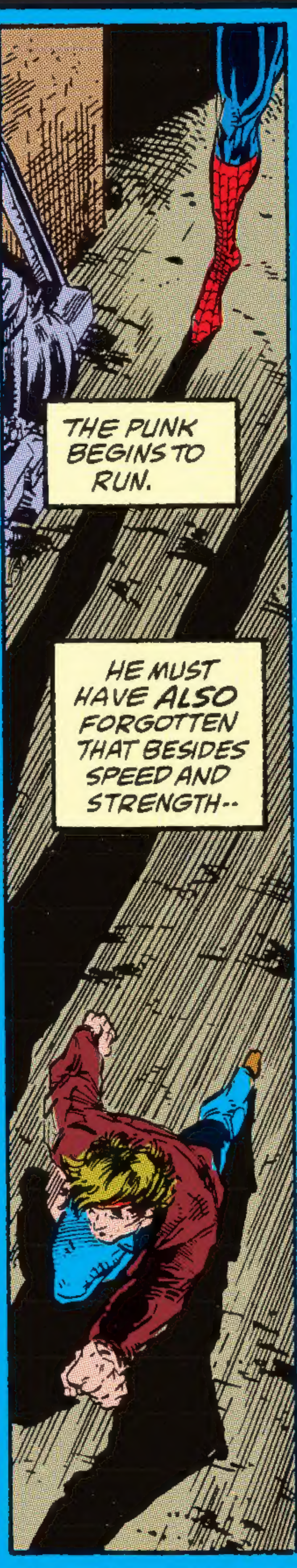
OH, NO!
NOW YOU
HAVE ME
MR. THUG!

KLEK

-- HE FORGOT
TO COUNT
TO THREE.

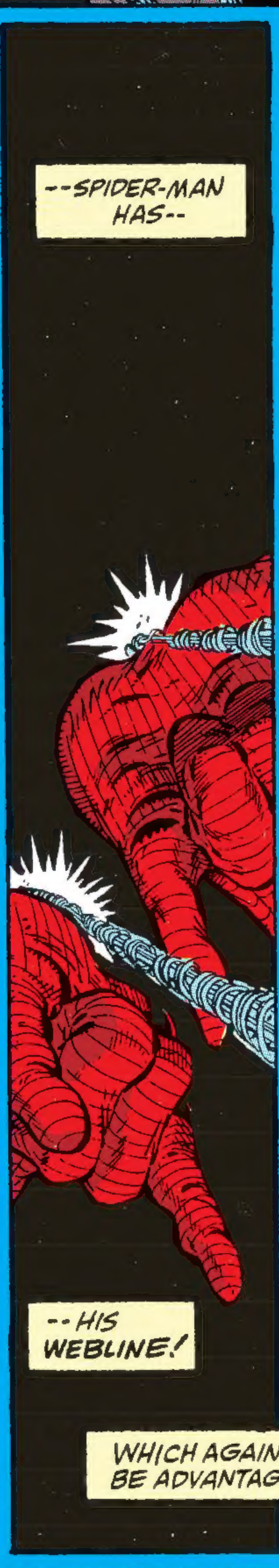


IDIOT.



THE PUNK
BEGINS TO
RUN.

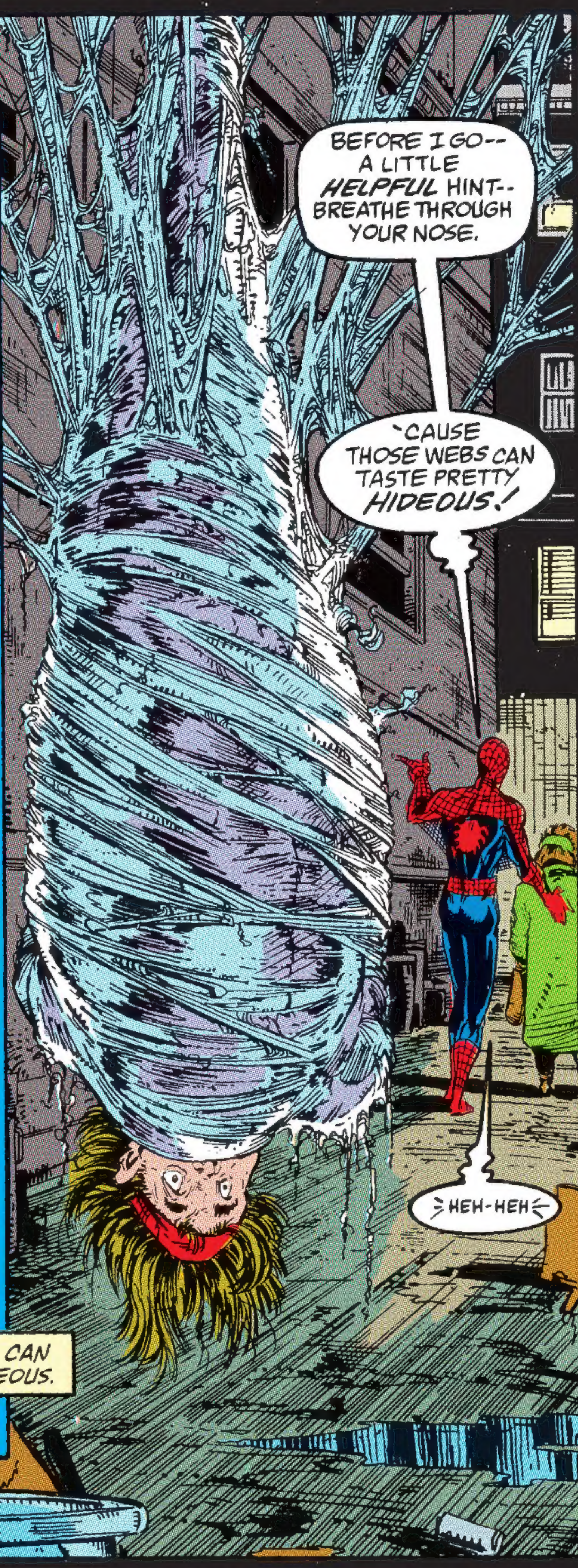
HE MUST
HAVE ALSO
FORGOTTEN
THAT BESIDES
SPEED AND
STRENGTH--



-- SPIDER-MAN
HAS--

-- HIS
WEBLINE!

WHICH AGAIN, CAN
BE ADVANTAGEOUS.



BEFORE I GO--
A LITTLE
HELPFUL HINT--
BREATHE THROUGH
YOUR NOSE.

'CAUSE
THOSE WEBS CAN
TASTE PRETTY
HIDEOUS!

HEH-HEH

NEW YORK.

IN A DARKENED
SANCTUARY--

--IT BEGINS.

DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM

THE PRIMAL
BEAT OF
DRUMS.

THE RITUAL
FIRE POT.



DOOM

THE PRAYING
TO SPIRITS.



DOOM

THE ALLEGIANCE
TO THINGS MOST
UNHOLY.



DOOM

MAGIC BEGINS
TO REACH OUT.



RISE.

FURTHER.

DOOM

-- AND
FURTHER.

DOOM DOOM

UNTIL THE
BLACKNESS
STARTS TO
BUBBLE.

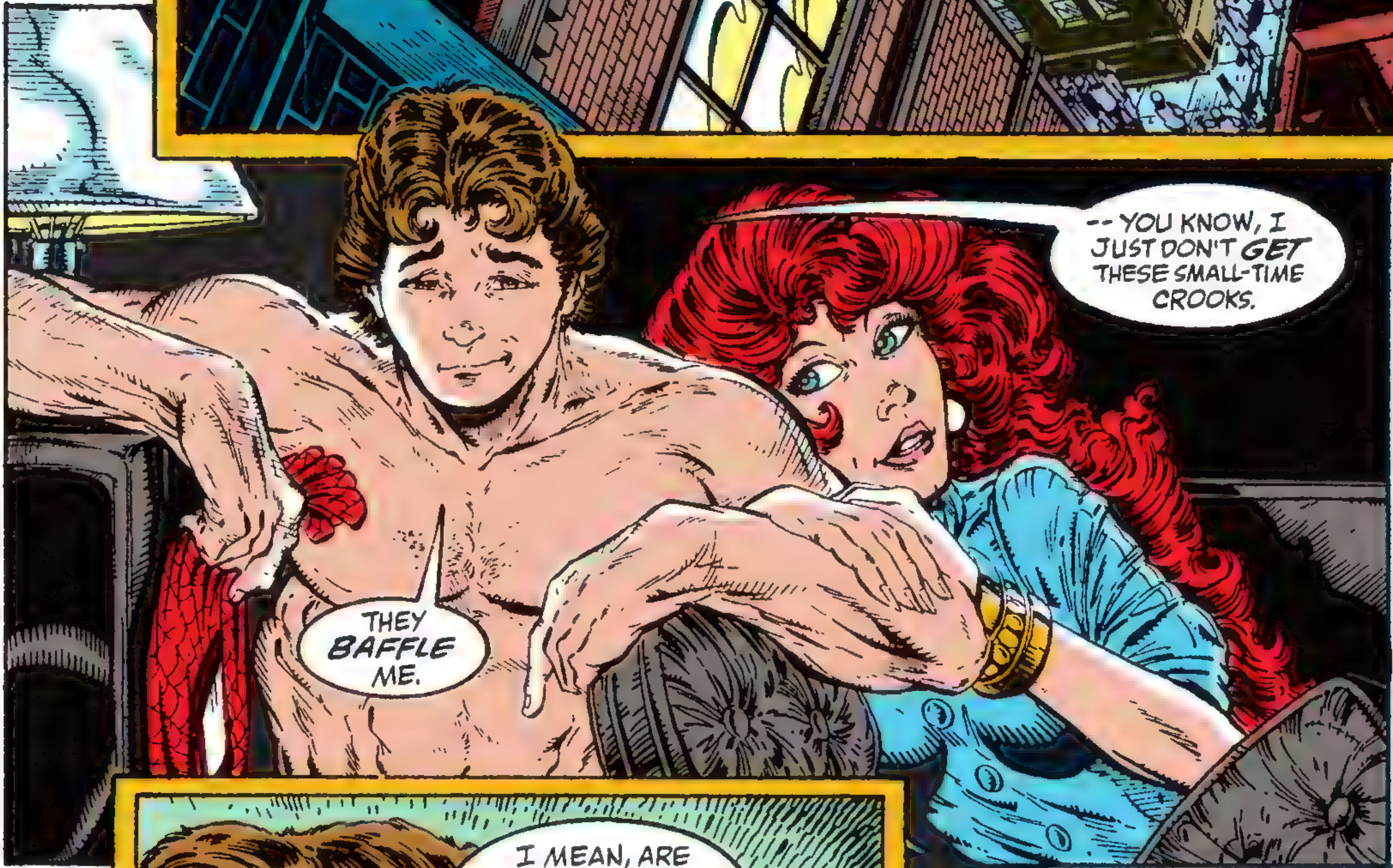
ITS POWERS
REACH INTO
THE EAST
RIVER--

SUMMONING
THE EVIL
WHICH LURKS
BELOW.

BECKONING
IT TO--

--RISE!

DOOM DOOM



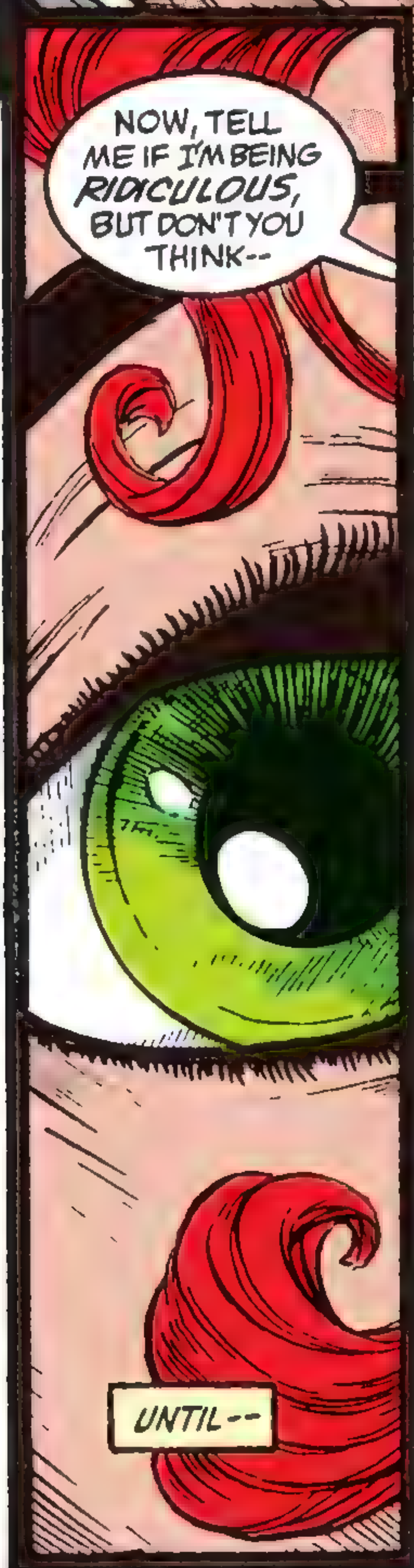


HECK, I EVEN
HAD ONE AGAINST
THANOS FOR GOD'S
SAKE!

MAYBE I'M JUST TOO
LOGICAL, BUT IF NONE OF
THOSE GUYS COULD KILL ME,
WHY DID THIS PUNK TONIGHT
THINK THAT HE'D BE THE
ONE?

THAT'S
DUMB.

... AND LISTENS.



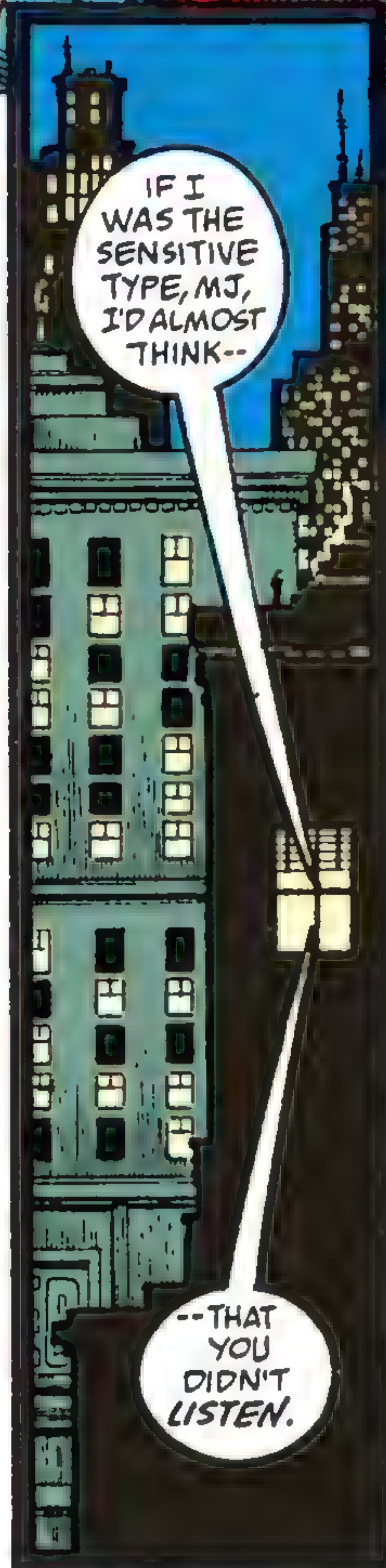
NOW, TELL
ME IF I'M BEING
RIDICULOUS,
BUT DON'T YOU
THINK--

UNTIL--



YOU KNOW,
SWEETHEART, YOU
CAN BE CUTE AND
CUDDLY WHEN YOU
GET PHILOSOPHICAL.

KEEP
IT UP!



IF I
WAS THE
SENSITIVE
TYPE, MJ,
I'D ALMOST
THINK--

--THAT
YOU
DIDN'T
LISTEN.

THROUGH THE
GARBAGE--

-- IT MOVES
WITH
QUICKNESS.

HOPING TO
QUENCH ITS
BURNING
HUNGER.

DOOM

IT STOPS.

NOW
INSTINCTS
TAKE OVER.

SENSING
THE KILL--

--IT WAITS UNTIL
THE MOMENT
IS RIGHT.

DOOM

THEN
IT
ACTS!

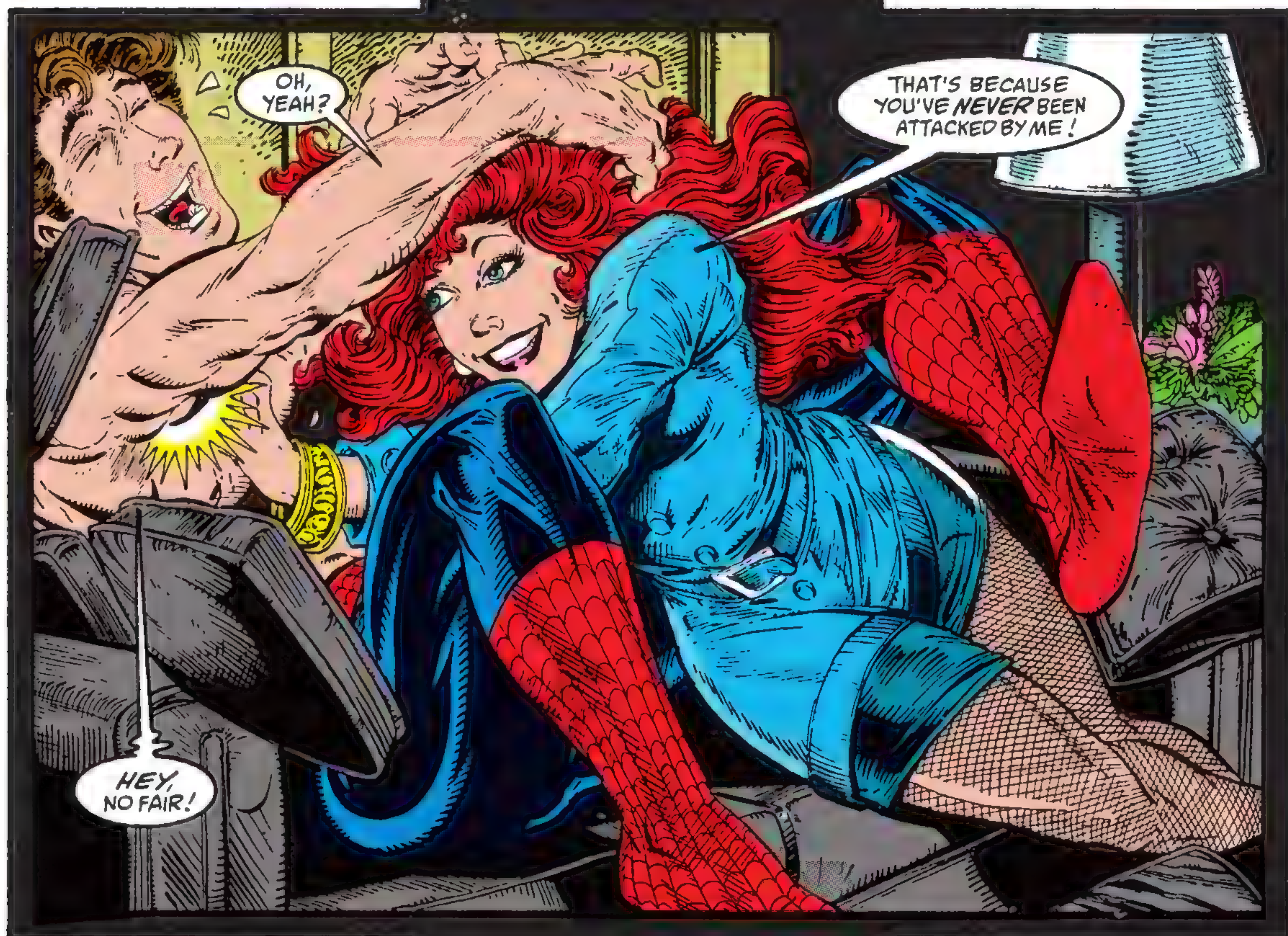
DOOM

IT IS ABOUT TO
FEAST, WHEN--

DOOM

--IT SPOTS EVEN
BIGGER RATS.

DOOM



SOMETIMES--

OH, GOD!

LIFE CAN BE
UNFAIR.

DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM

IT DOES
NOT THINK.

**THIS UNHOLY
MONSTROSITY.**

DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM

**IT ONLY HEEDS THE CALL
OF THE DRUMS.**

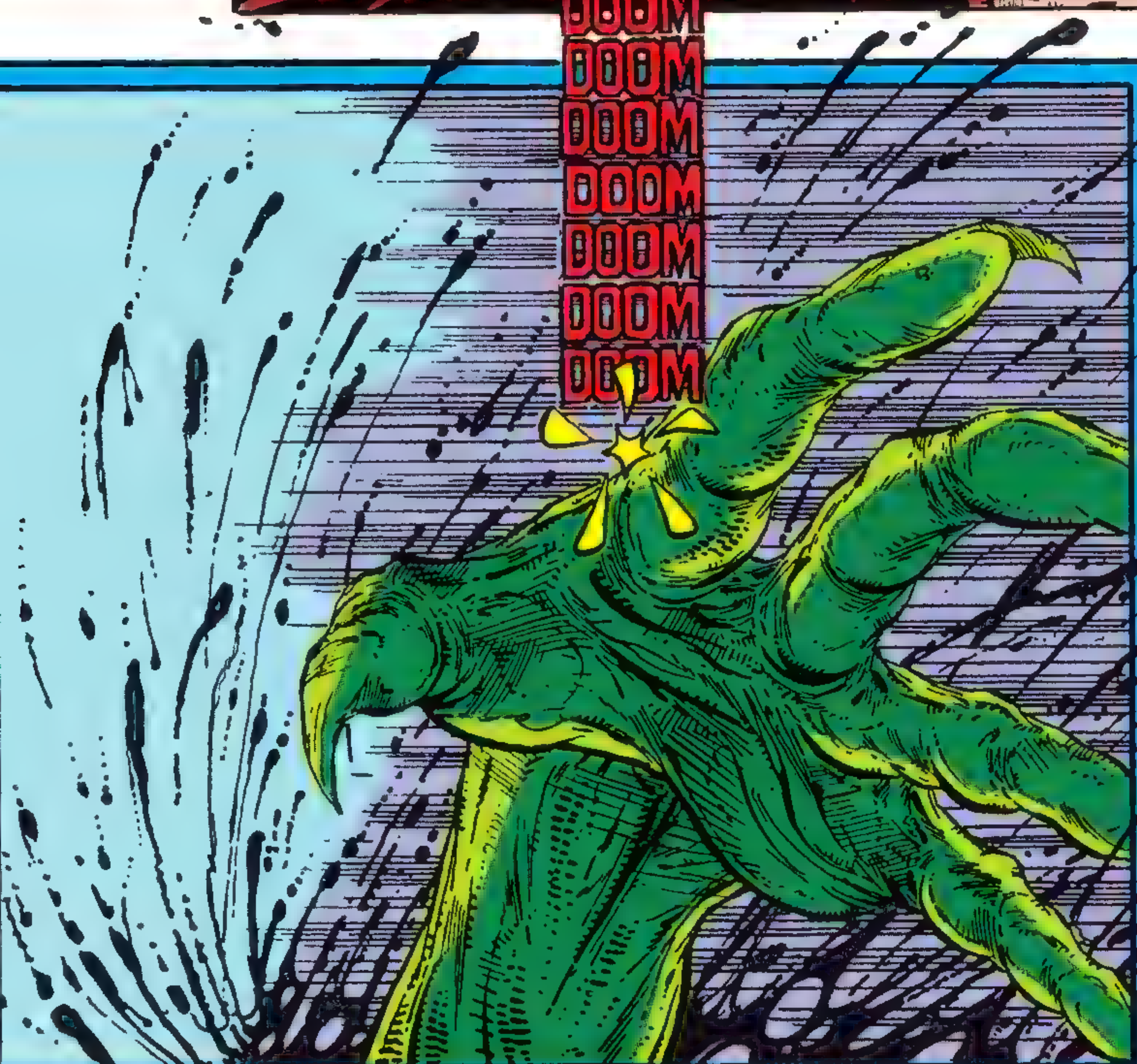
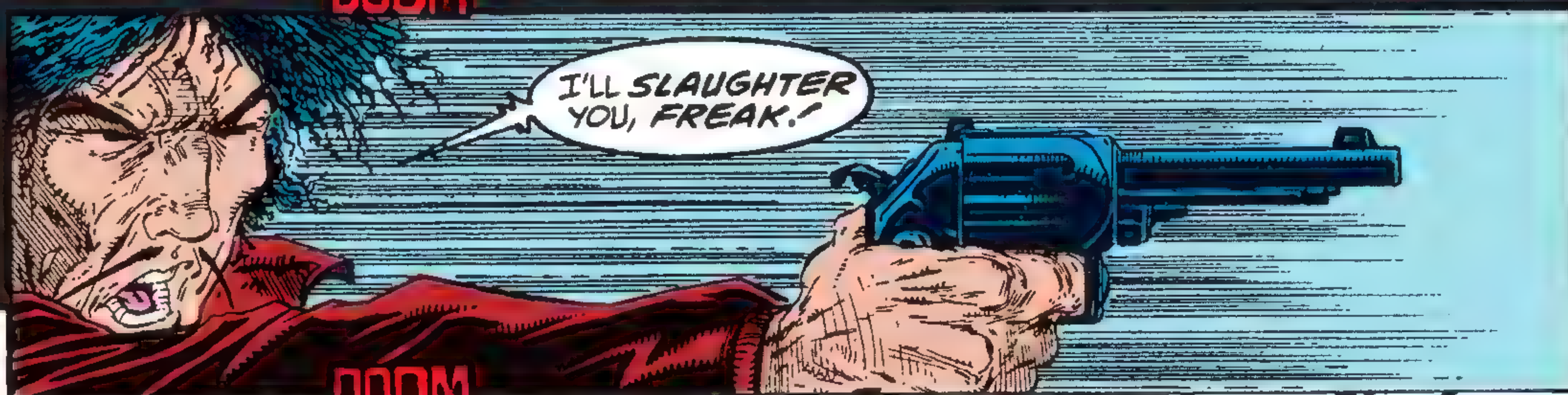
WITH QUICKNESS...

...WITH VICIOUSNESS.

THE MONSTER DOES EXACTLY
WHAT IT WAS CREATED FOR.

DOOM

00



**THE DRUMS ARE
SILENT.**



IN

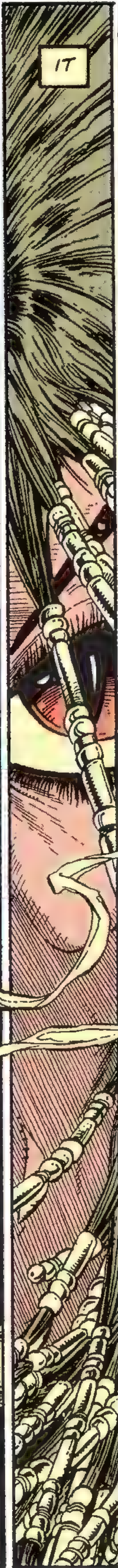
THE

BLACK-
NESS

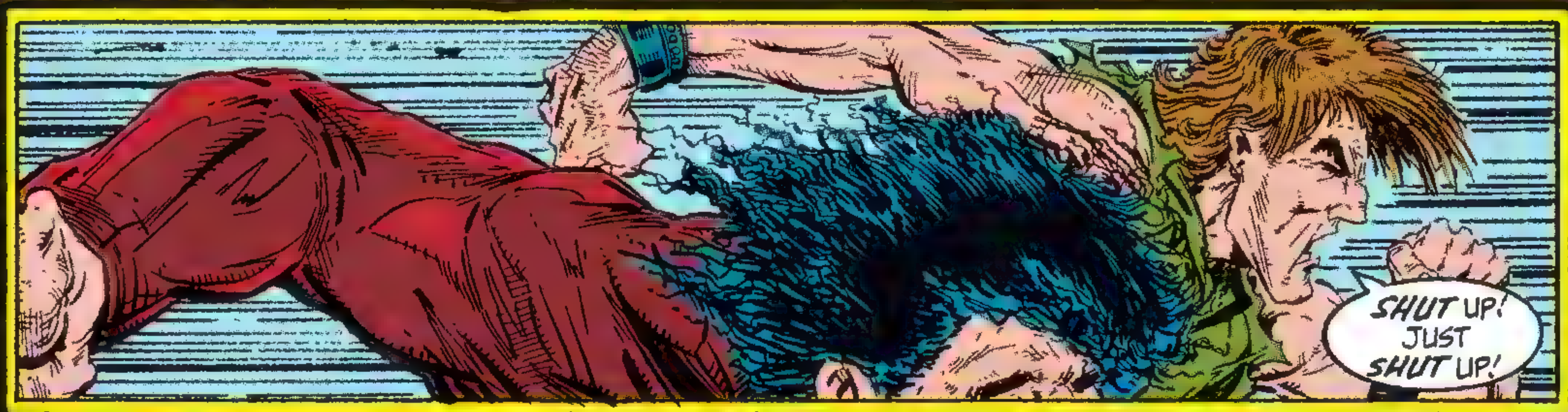
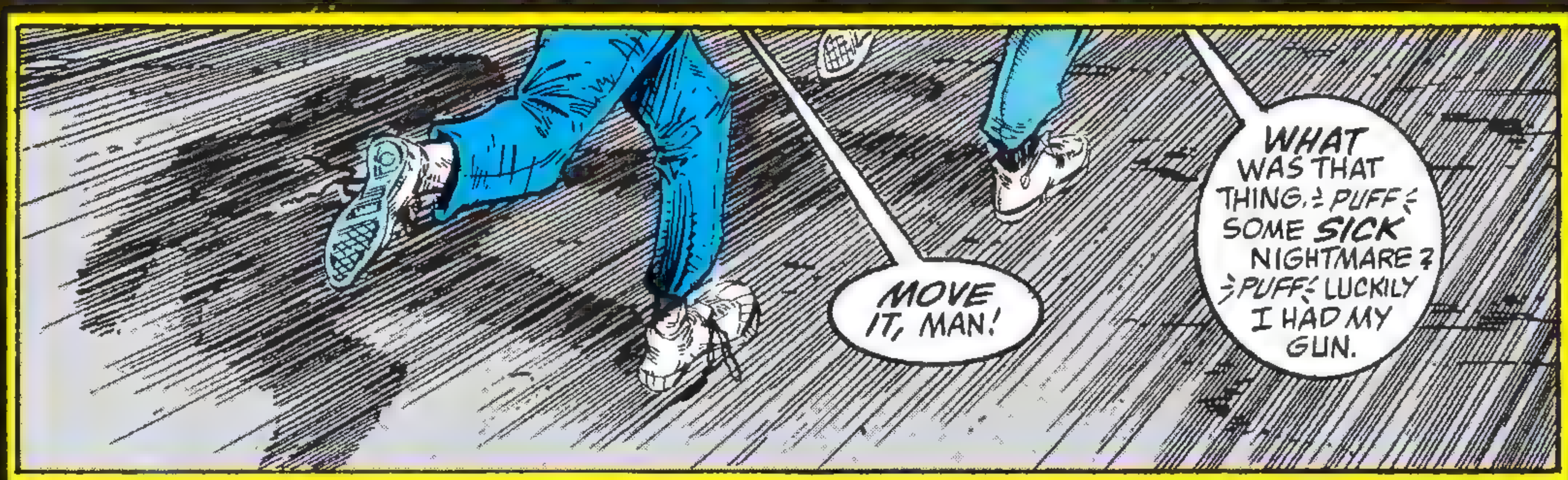
IT

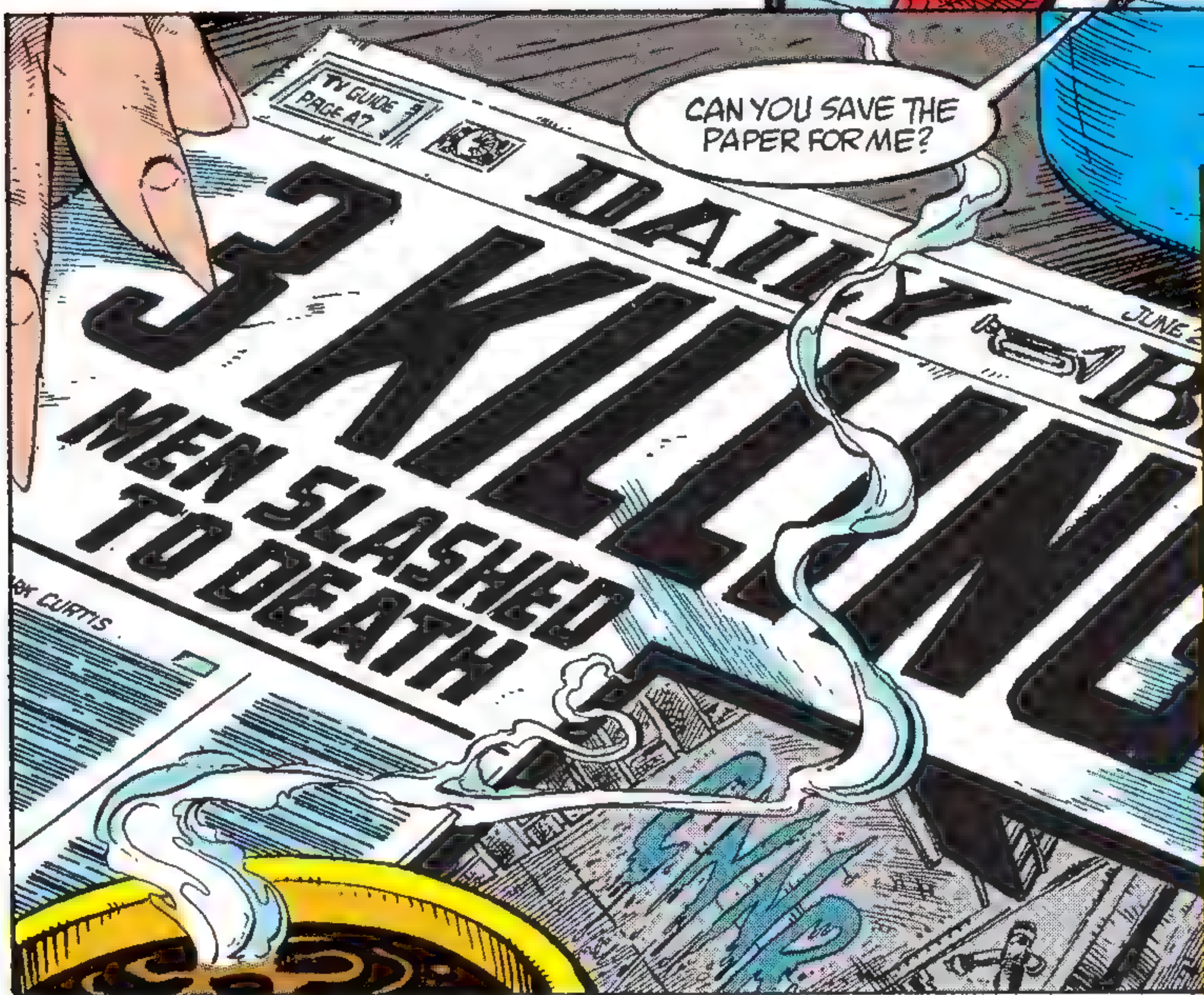
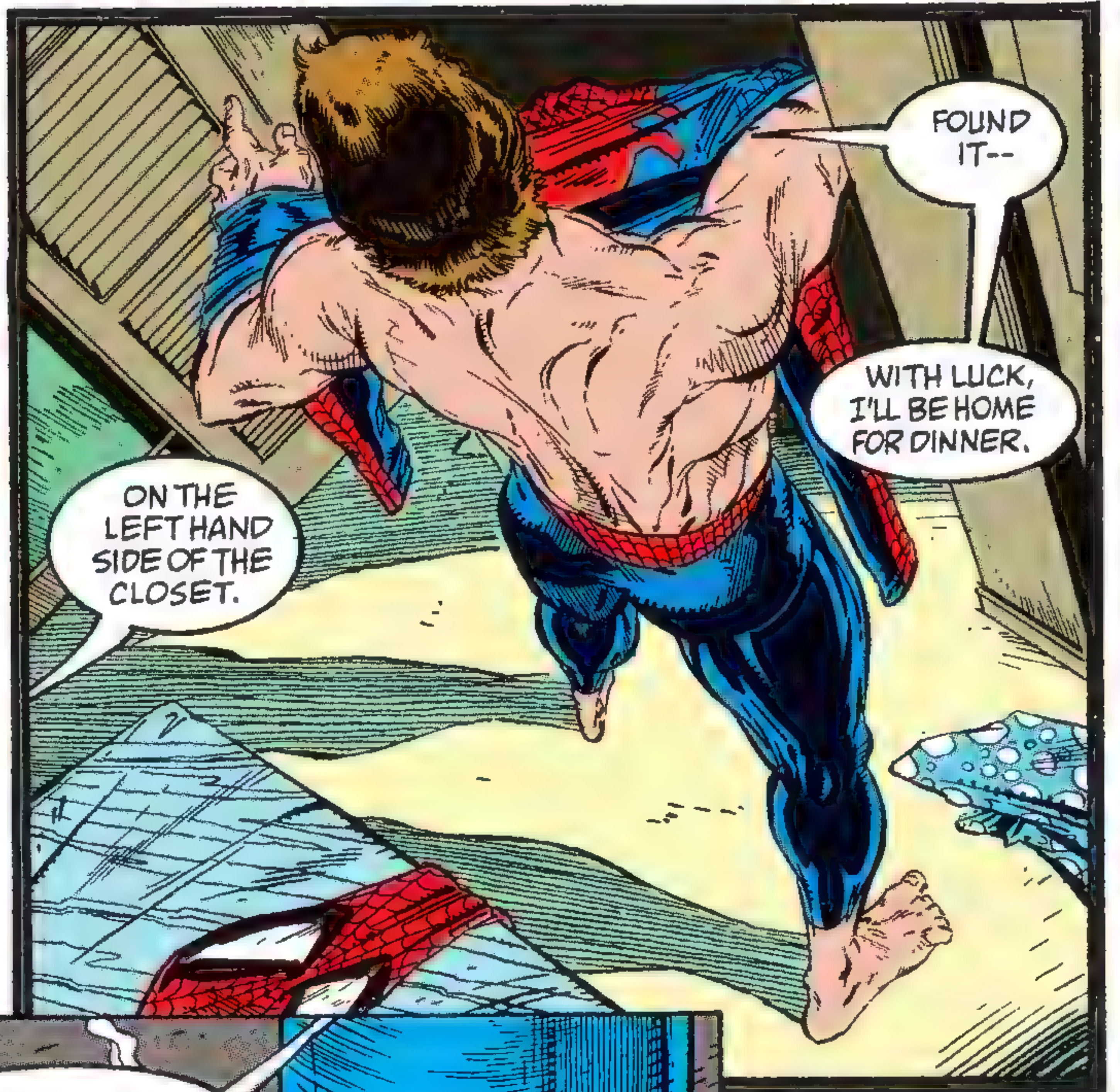
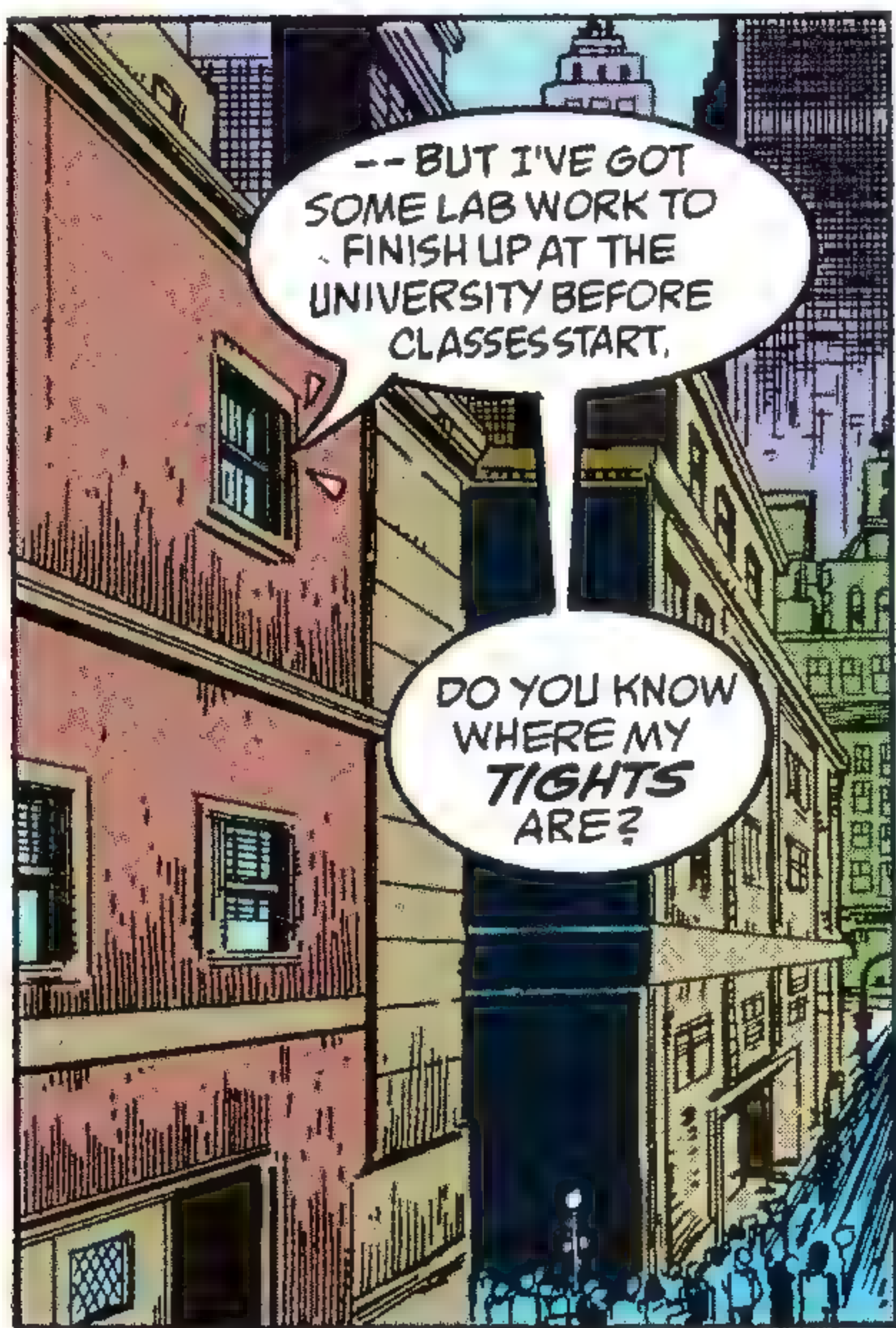
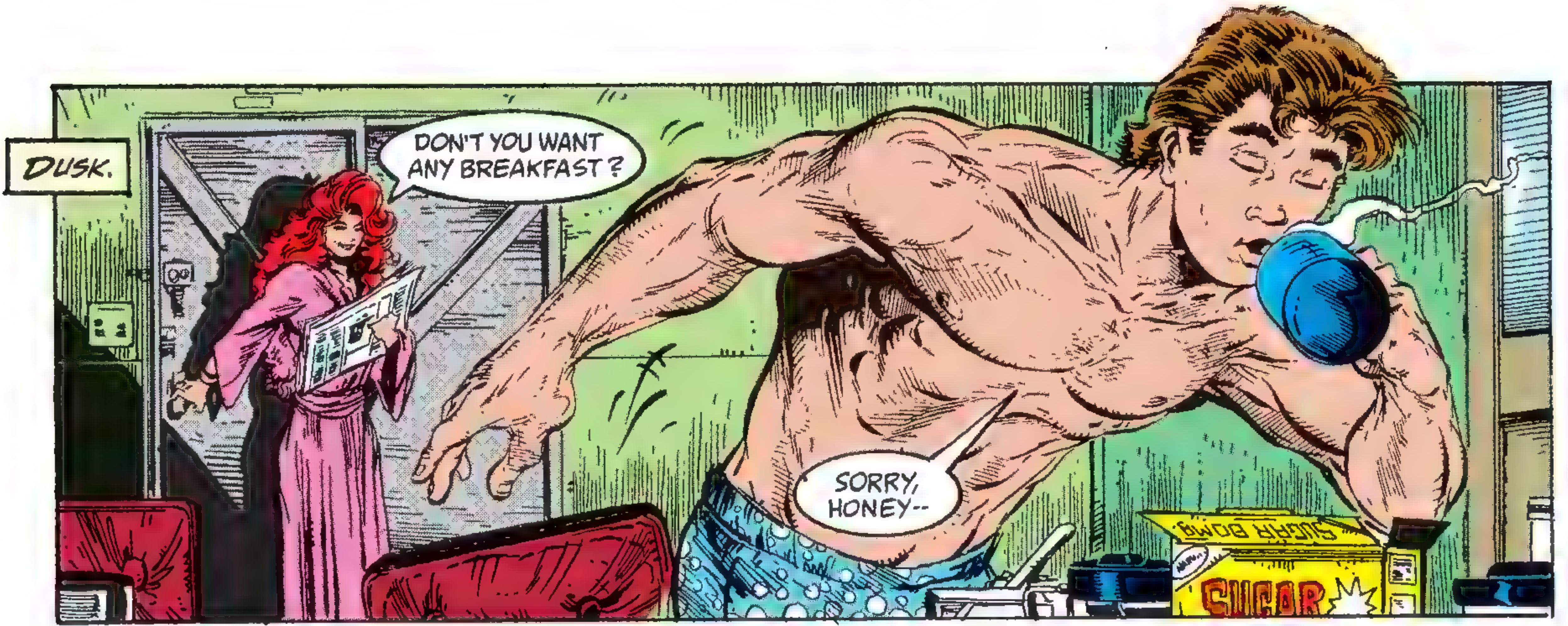
BEGINS

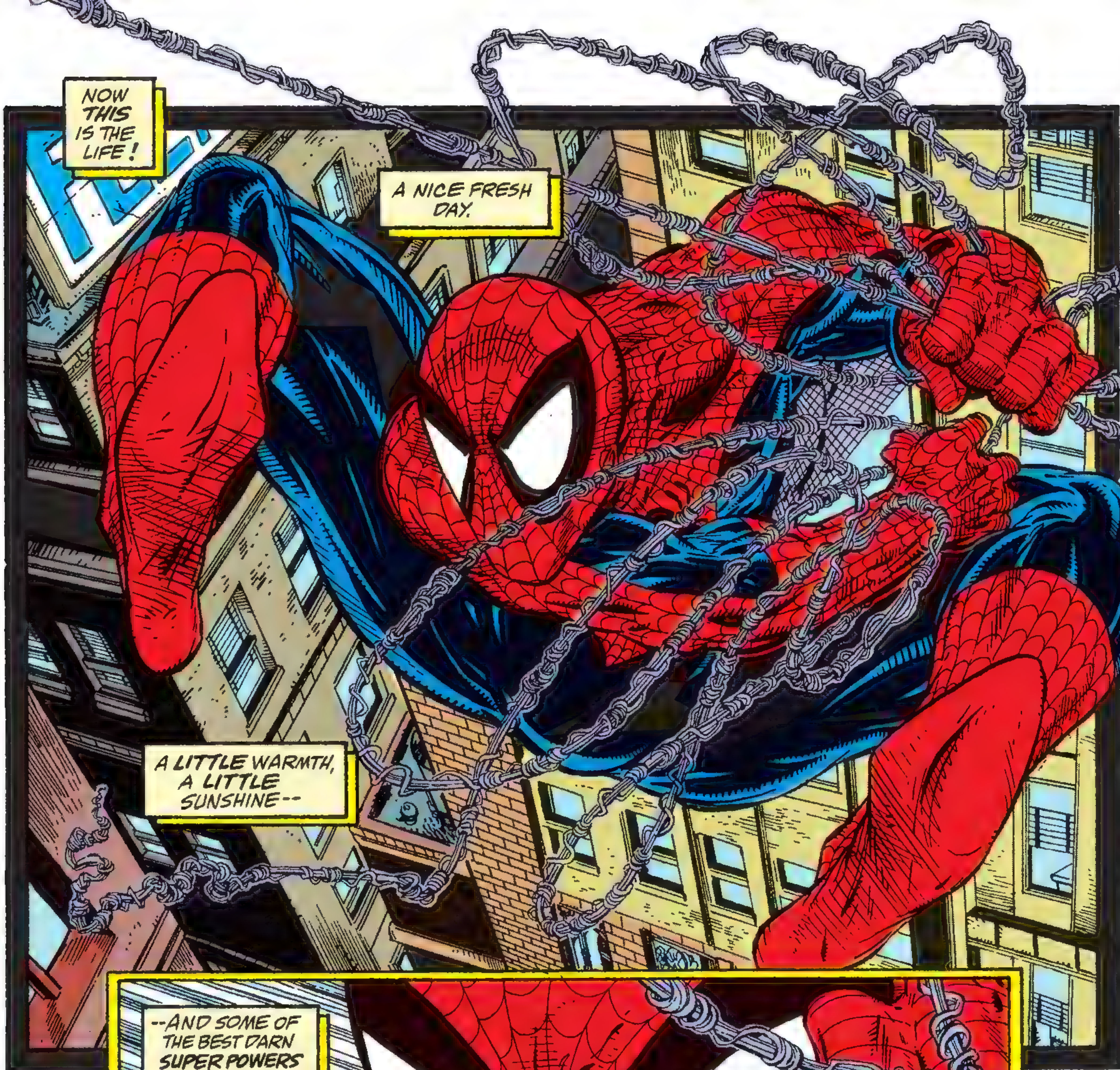
AGAIN.



DOOM



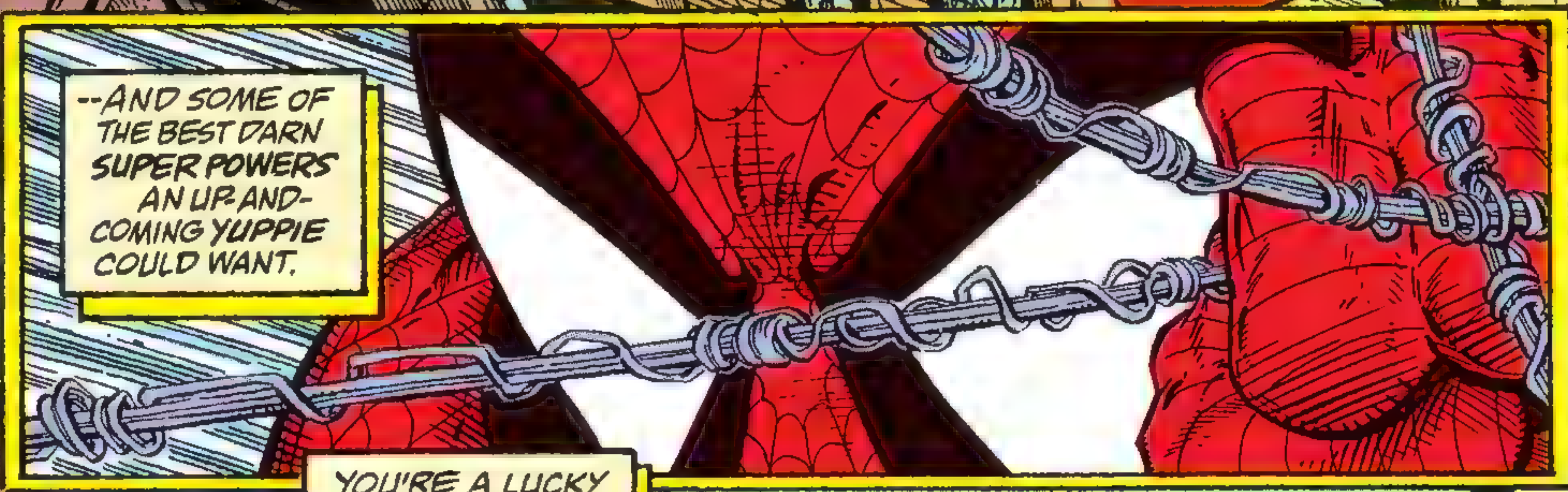


A large panel showing Spider-Man in his red and blue suit, hanging upside down from a thick, grey metal chain. He is looking directly at the viewer with a neutral expression. The background shows a city street with yellow buildings and a clear sky.

NOW
THIS
IS THE
LIFE!

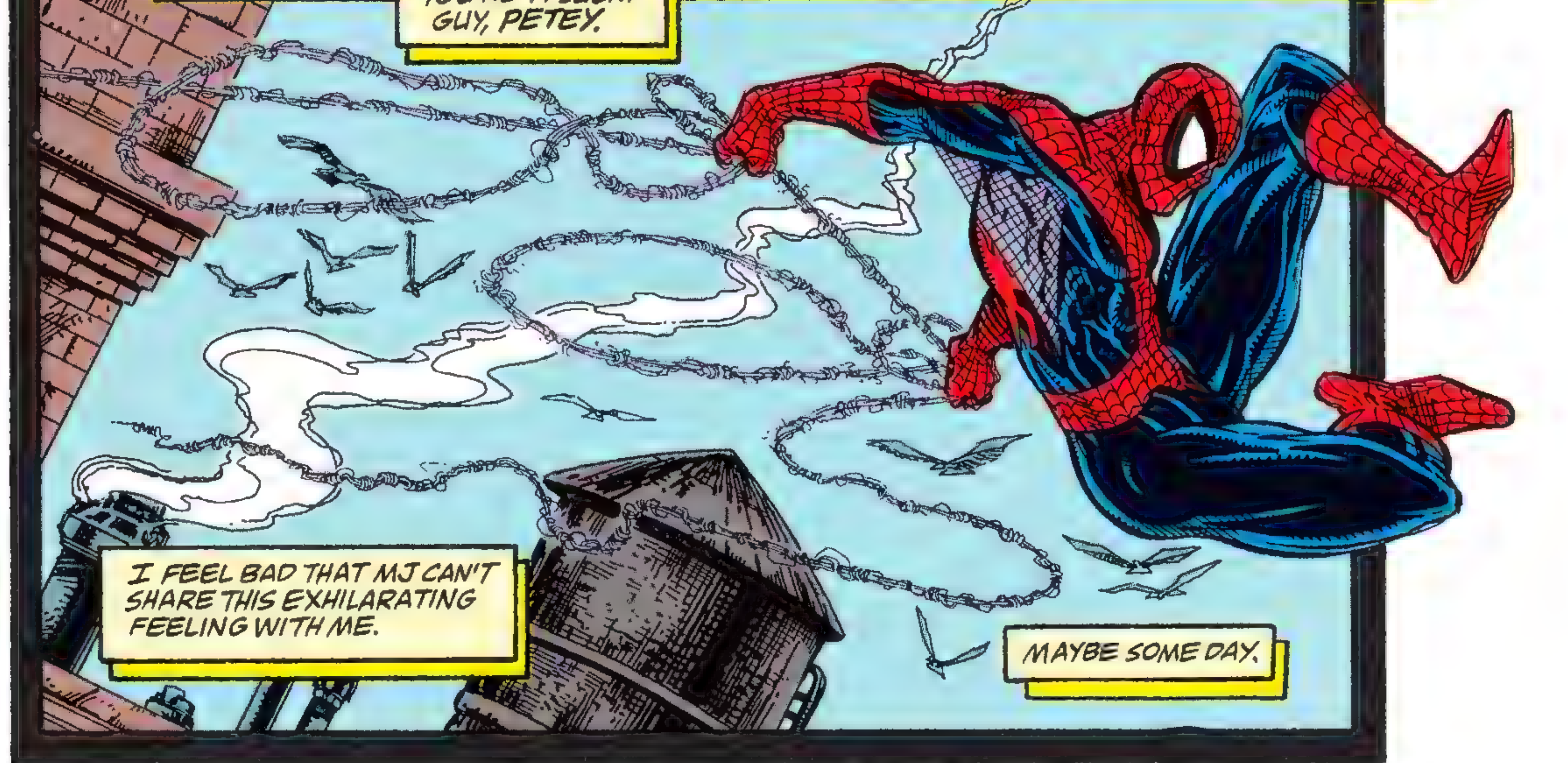
A NICE FRESH
DAY.

A LITTLE WARMTH,
A LITTLE
SUNSHINE--

A medium panel showing a close-up of Spider-Man's face and upper body as he hangs from the chain. The chain is wrapped around his chest.

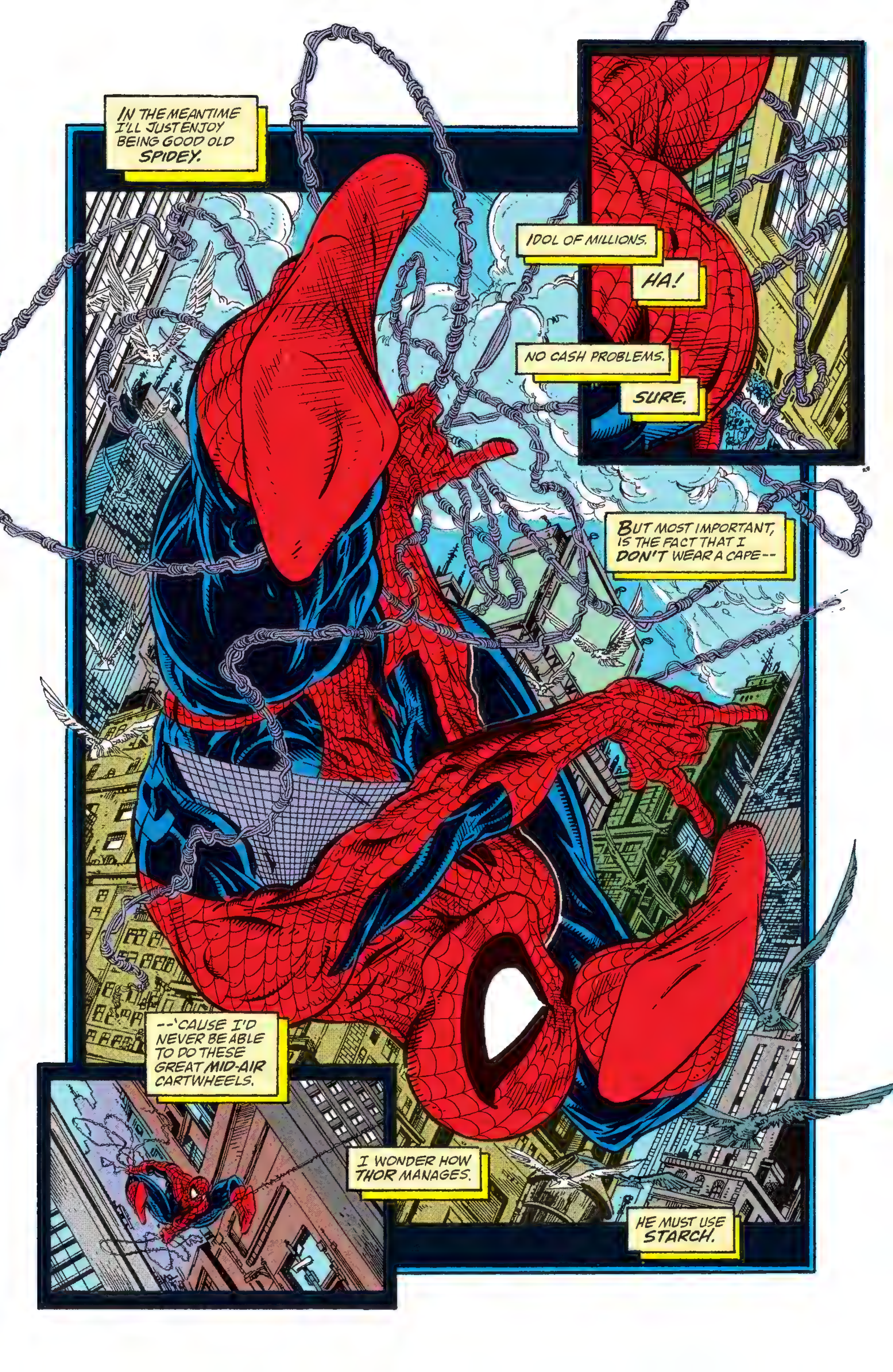
--AND SOME OF
THE BEST DARN
SUPER POWERS
AN UP-AND-
COMING YUPPIE
COULD WANT.

YOU'RE A LUCKY
GUY, PETEY.

A large panel showing Spider-Man swinging through the air, holding onto the chain with one hand. He is in a dynamic, swinging pose. The background shows a city street with yellow buildings and a clear sky.

I FEEL BAD THAT MJ CAN'T
SHARE THIS EXHILARATING
FEELING WITH ME.

MAYBE SOME DAY.

A large, stylized illustration of Spider-Man in his red and blue web suit. He is suspended in the air by a single web strand that loops around him. The background is a detailed cityscape with various buildings and flying birds. The illustration is framed by a blue border.

IN THE MEANTIME
I'LL JUST ENJOY
BEING GOOD OLD
SPIDEY.

IDOL OF MILLIONS.

HA!

NO CASH PROBLEMS.

SURE.

BUT MOST IMPORTANT,
IS THE FACT THAT I
DON'T WEAR A CAPE--

--'CAUSE I'D
NEVER BE ABLE
TO DO THESE
GREAT MID-AIR
CARTWHEELS.

I WONDER HOW
THOR MANAGES.

HE MUST USE
STARCH.

AS NIGHT
FADES
AWAY IN
THE BIG
CITY.

THE
DARKNESS
BEGINS TO
DISSOLVE.

IT IS ONCE
AGAIN, TIME
FOR PEOPLE
TO SCURRY.

HIS NAME IS
RALPH DILL.

HE LIKES TAKING
THIS BACK WAY TO
WORK BECAUSE
IT SAVES HIM
SEVEN MINUTES.

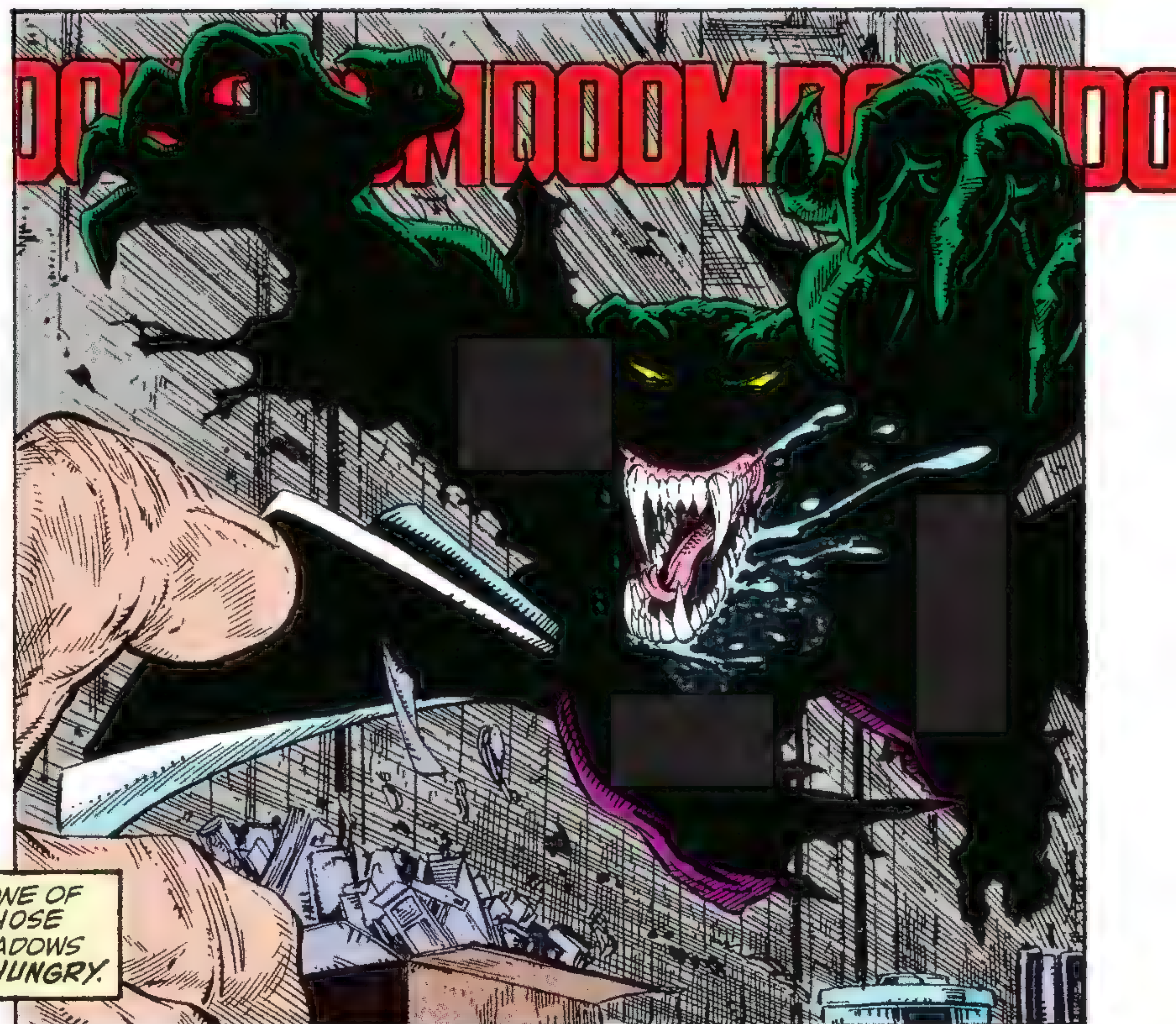
JUST ENOUGH TIME
FOR A JELLY DONUT
AND COFFEE.

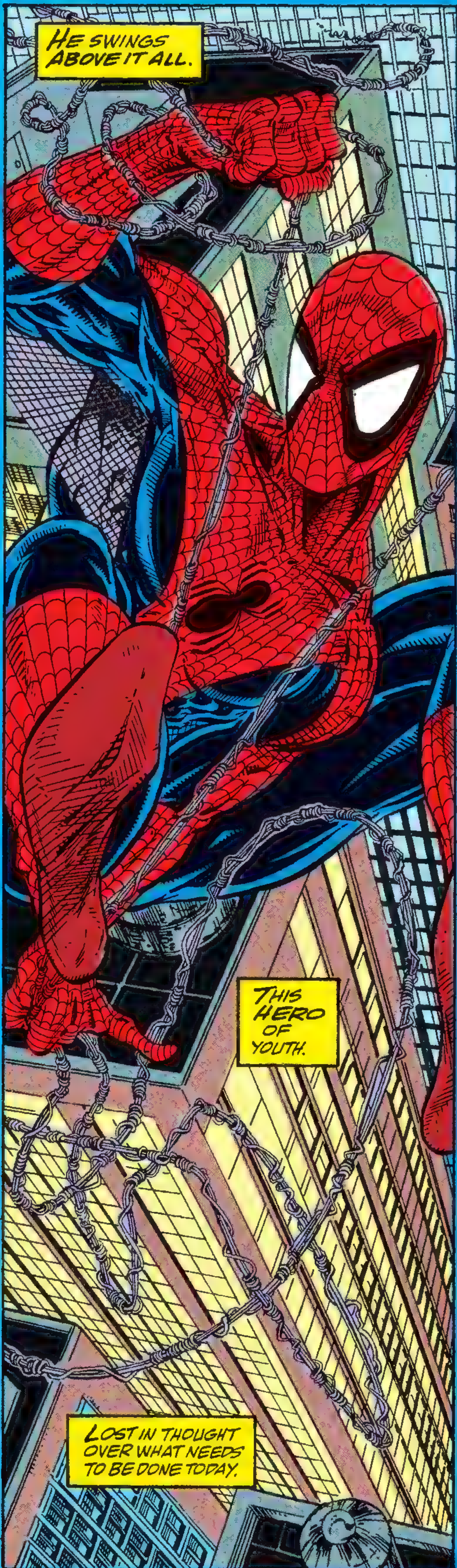
BESIDES, IT'S BRIGHT AND
THERE AREN'T THAT MANY
SHADOWS.

UNFORTUNATELY
FOR RALPH--

SKRITCH

-- ONE OF
THOSE
SHADOWS
IS HUNGRY.





HE SWINGS
ABOVE IT ALL.

THIS
HERO
OF
YOUTH.

LOST IN THOUGHT
OVER WHAT NEEDS
TO BE DONE TODAY.

**IT CRAWLS
BELOW.**

WAITING.

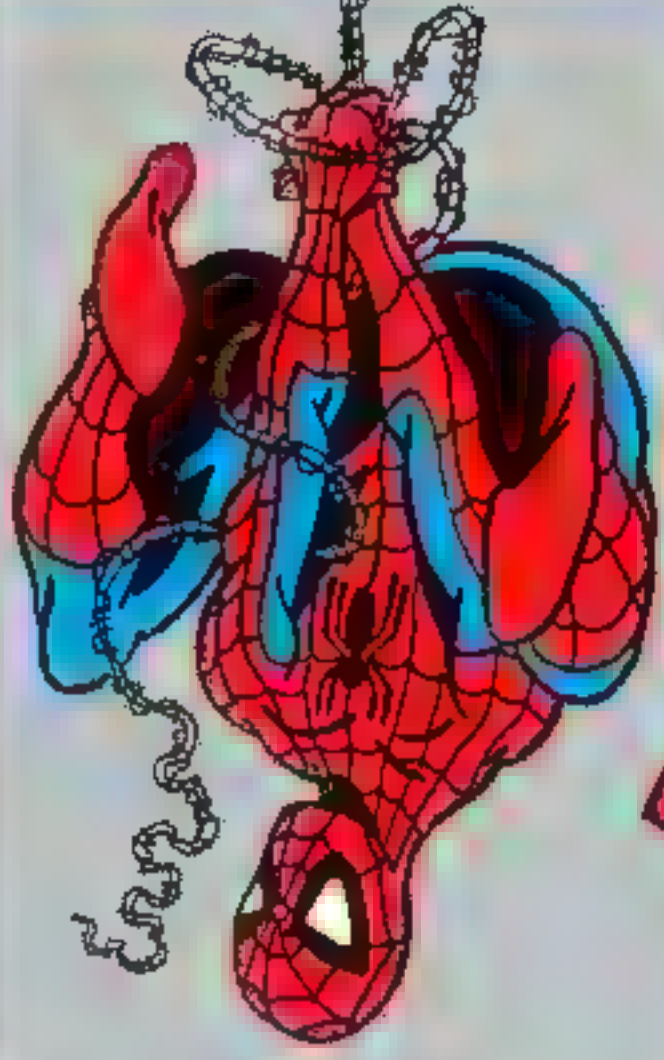


HUNGERING FOR
A HERO THAT
SWINGS ABOVE
IT ALL.

SOON IT WILL FEAST.

NEXT
Part 2

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THE ARACHKNIGHT RETURNS!

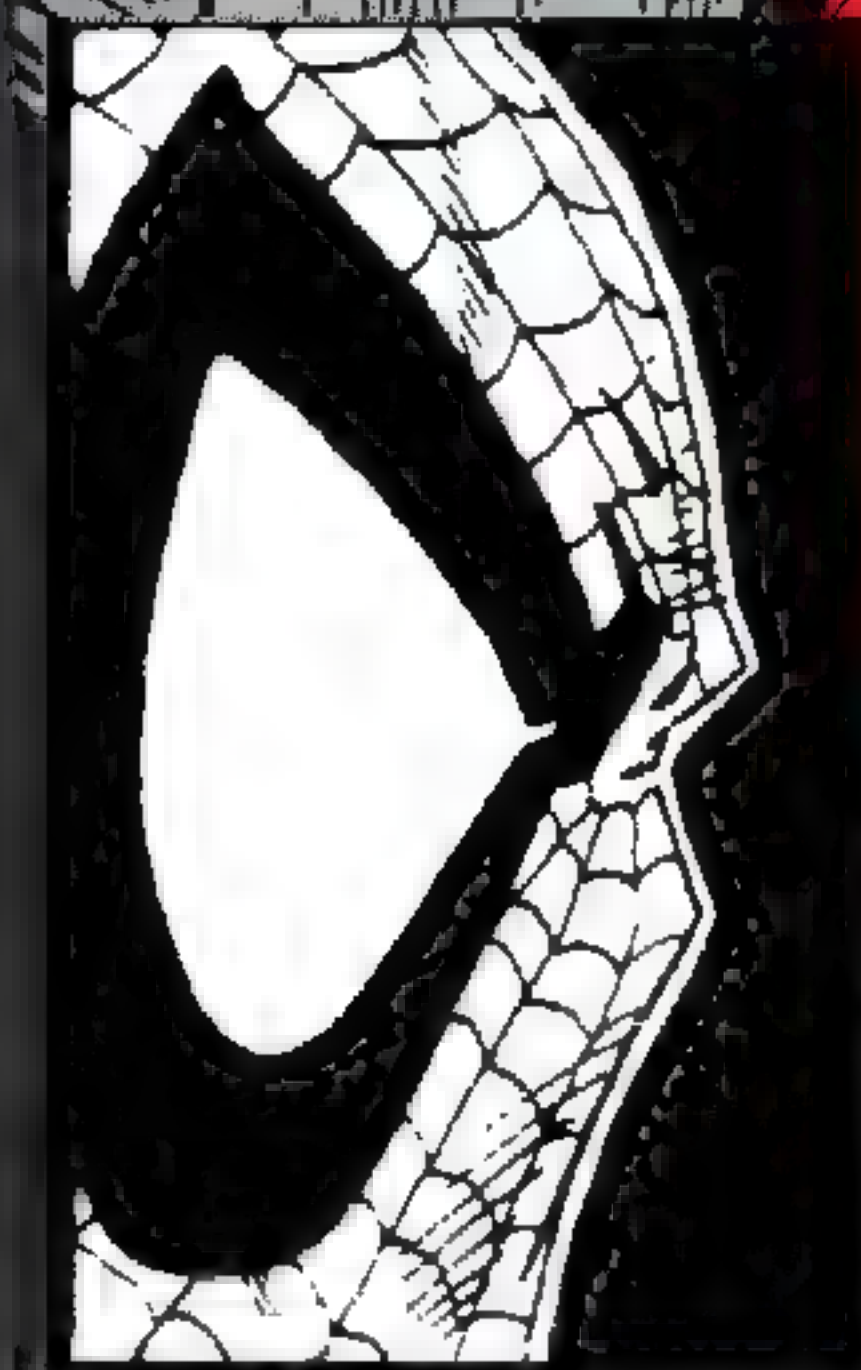
"TORMENT"

PART TWO OF FIVE

SPIDER-MAN[®]

BLOOD
LUST
OF THE
LIZARD!

McFARLANE



NEW YORK.

IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY.

TIME NOW TO ENJOY A FEW DRINKS WITH A FRIEND.

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO IT, STAN-- WORK FOR THAT IDIOT BOSS OF OURS AND STILL COME OUT SMILING!

HEY, IT'S EASY. WHEN OLD MAN BORDERS COMES INTO HIS OFFICE TOMORROW-- HE'S GOING TO FIND THE BIGGEST PIECE OF RUBBER VOMIT I COULD FIND, ON HIS DESK!

AND THE BEST PART, MORLEY, IS HE WON'T HAVE A CLUE.

HA-HA-HEE! YOU KILL ME, STAN! I'D NEVER HAVE THE GUTS TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO BUSY FLIRTING WITH ALL THE SECRETARIES.

GOOD POINT!

SPEAKING OF WHICH--I'VE GOT TO READ YOU THIS AD FROM THE PERSONALS COLUMN.

"YOUNG SENSUOUS FEMALE. 27 YEARS OLD. LOOKING FOR RICH, WALL STREET TYPE. MUST BE WILLING TO PROVIDE A VARIETY OF EXPENSIVE GIFTS--"

YOU ARE ONE SICK PUPPY, MORLEY!

QUIET, THERE'S MORE!

"SO WRITE TO BAMBI, P.O. BOX 12287, STATION G, NEW YORK, N.Y., 10103. P.S.-- I GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL BE WILD, WET, WONDERFUL AND WORTH IT!"

"--IN RETURN FOR THE BEST LOVE-SLAVE YOU CAN FIND. WILL GIVE YOU PLEASURE THE MOMENT YOU'RE DONE WORKING. ANY PLACE, ANY STYLE--"

"PLEASE WRITE, BECAUSE TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE A FANTASY TRIP AND TRY TO--"

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

"-- RISE ABOVE
IT ALL!"

IN THE EARLY EVENING,
IN A DARK ALLEY, ONE
COLOR DOMINATES
THE DIRT AND THE
GARBAGE.

ONLY THE FAINT
HISS OF EVIL
ALERTS STAN AND
MORLEY.

THEY LOOK UP--

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

-- BUT BEFORE THEY
EVEN HAVE A CHANCE
TO FOCUS ON THE BLUR--

-- THEIR LIVES
ARE OVER.

THAT COLOR--

--IS
RED.

BOOM

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

TORMENT

PART 2
ARTIST-WRITER
TODD
McFARLANE

LETTERS
RICK PARKER
COLOR
BOB SHAREN
EDITOR
JIM SALICRUP
EDITOR IN CHIEF
TOM DETALSO

JULY 2 1990



BLOOD
RED.

SOHO.

THE NEXT
MORNING.

PETEY--

-- I THINK YOU SHOULD TAKE
A **TEENIE WEENIE** BIT OF TIME
THIS WEEKEND SO WE CAN GO PICK
OUT SOME WALLPAPER FOR THE
BATHROOM.

UH--OH, SURE,
MARY JANE,
SOUNDS GREAT!

SOMETIMES--

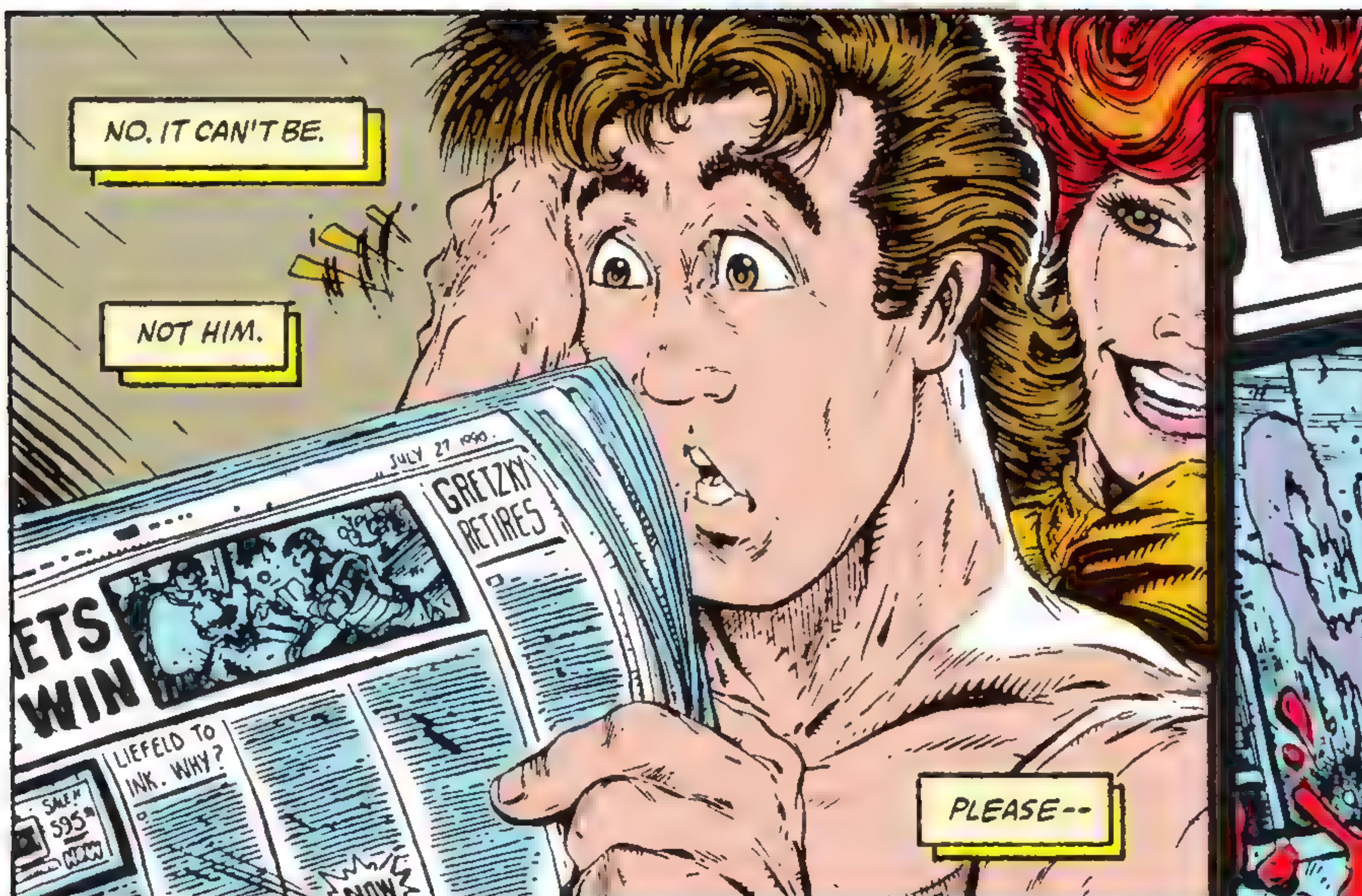
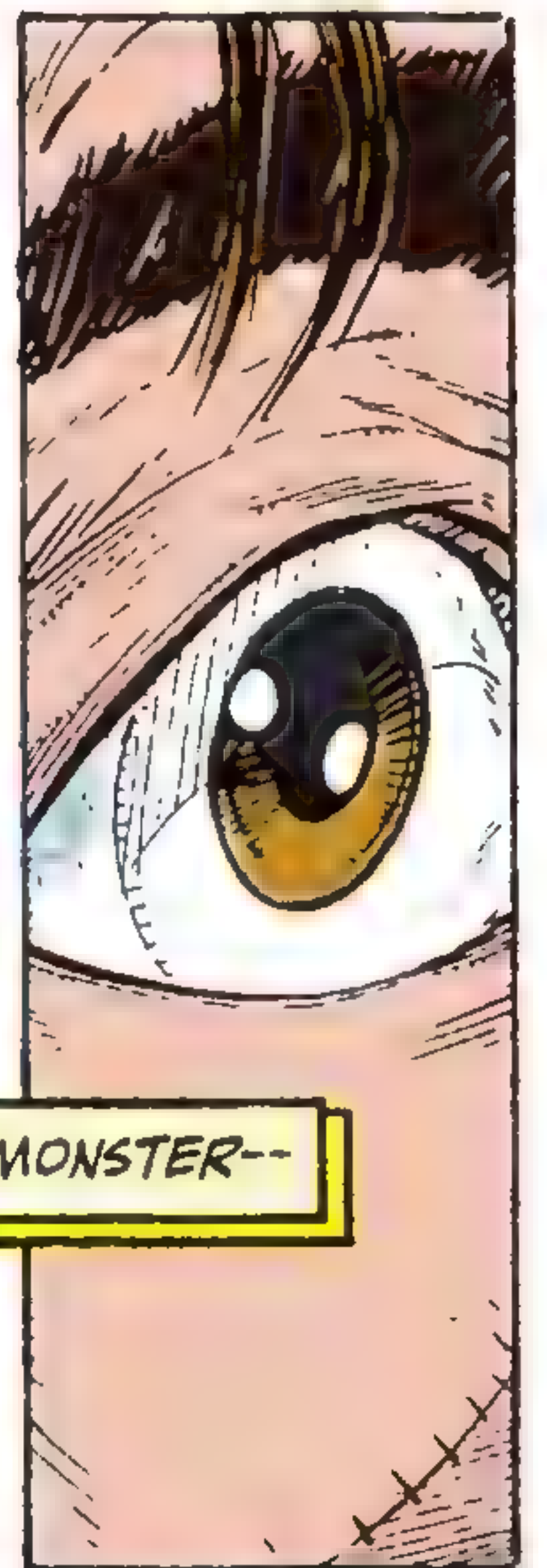
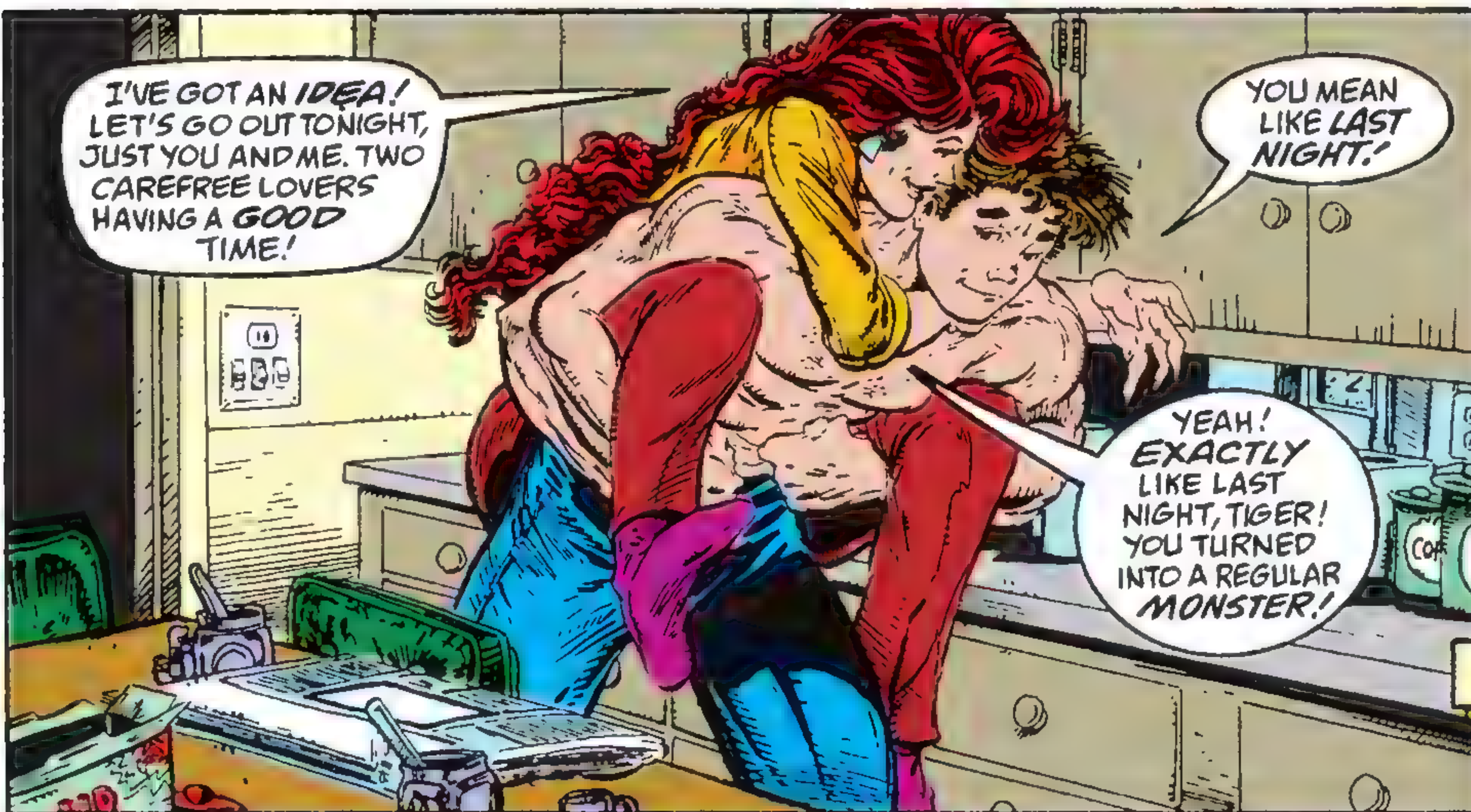
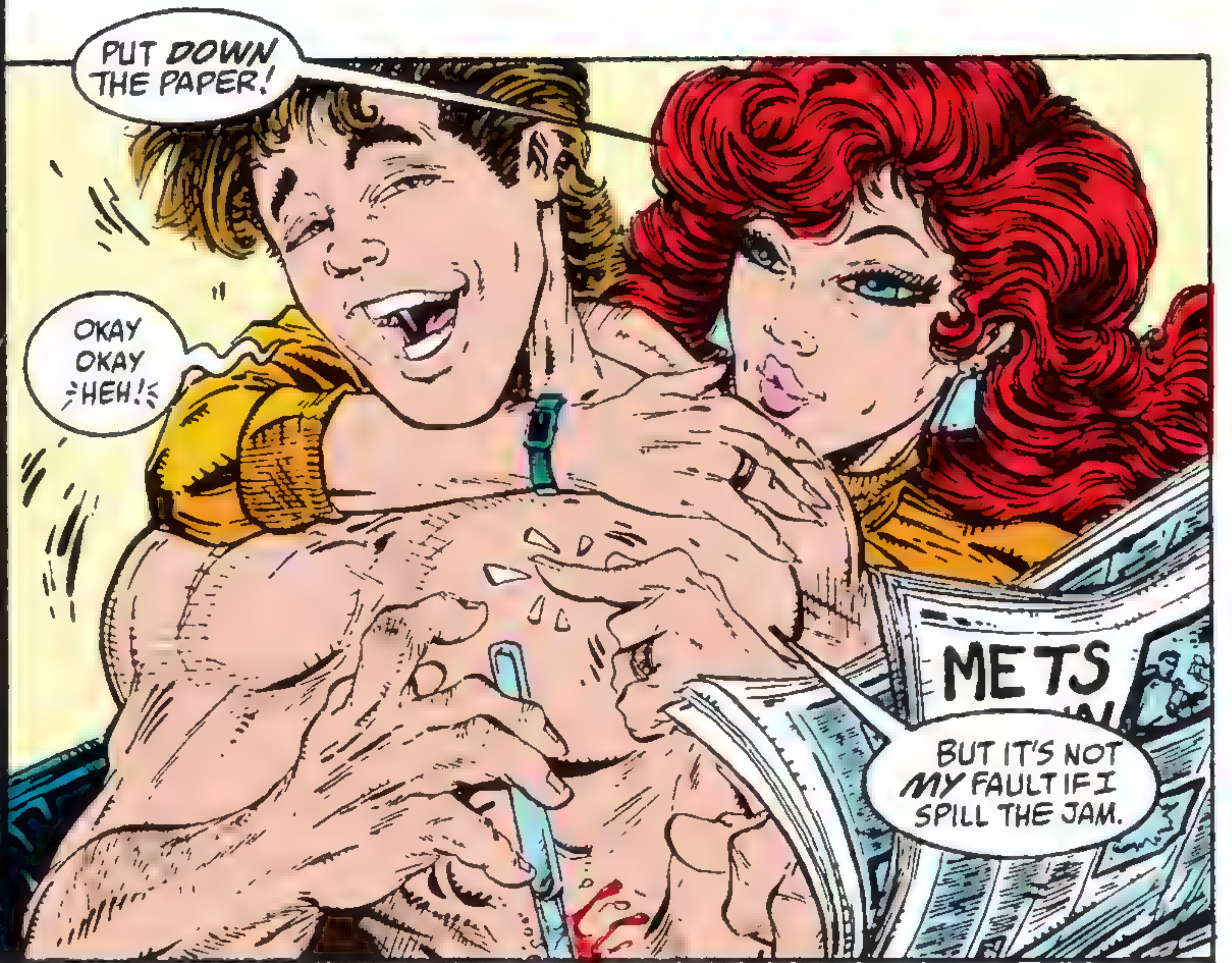
THIS CITY
CAN BE
DISTURBING.

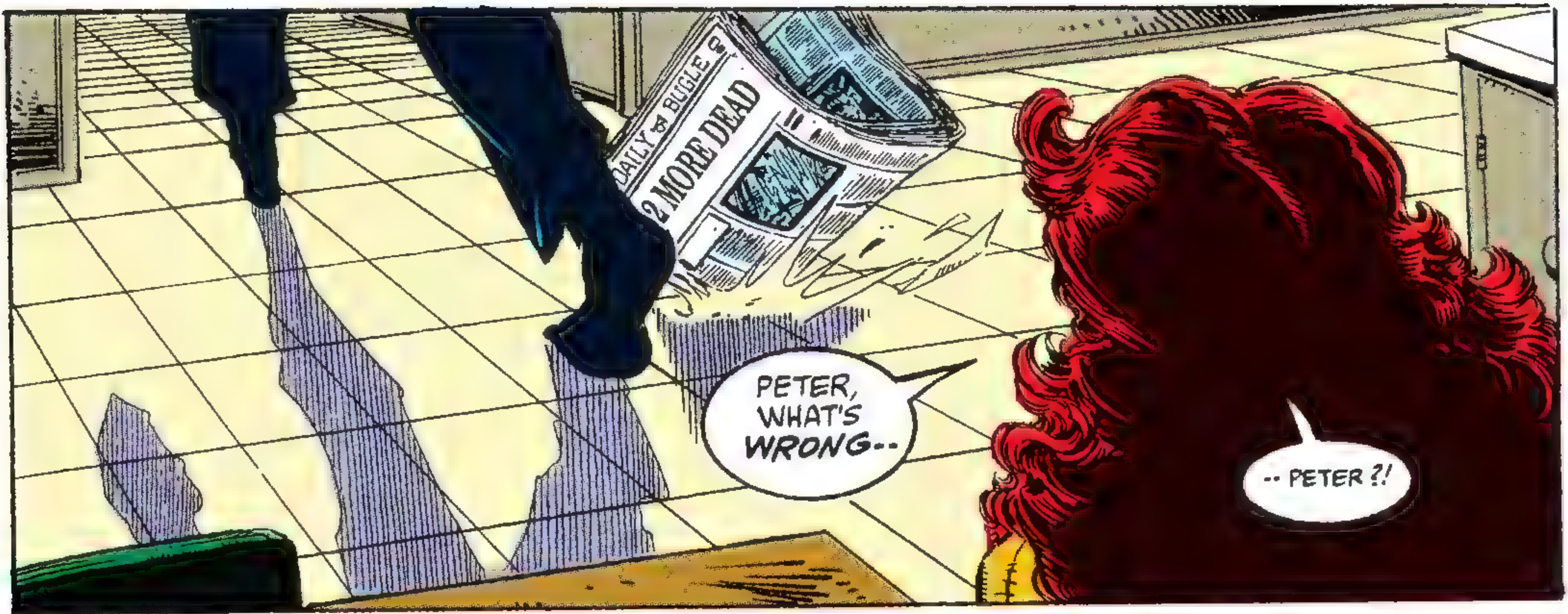
NOW THAT WAS AN
ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE
IF I'VE EVER HEARD ONE!
C'MON, PETER, PUT DOWN
THE PAPER.

DAILY BUGLE
2 MORE DEAD

MYSTERY OVER
BLOODWRITING
GANGS SUSPECTED--

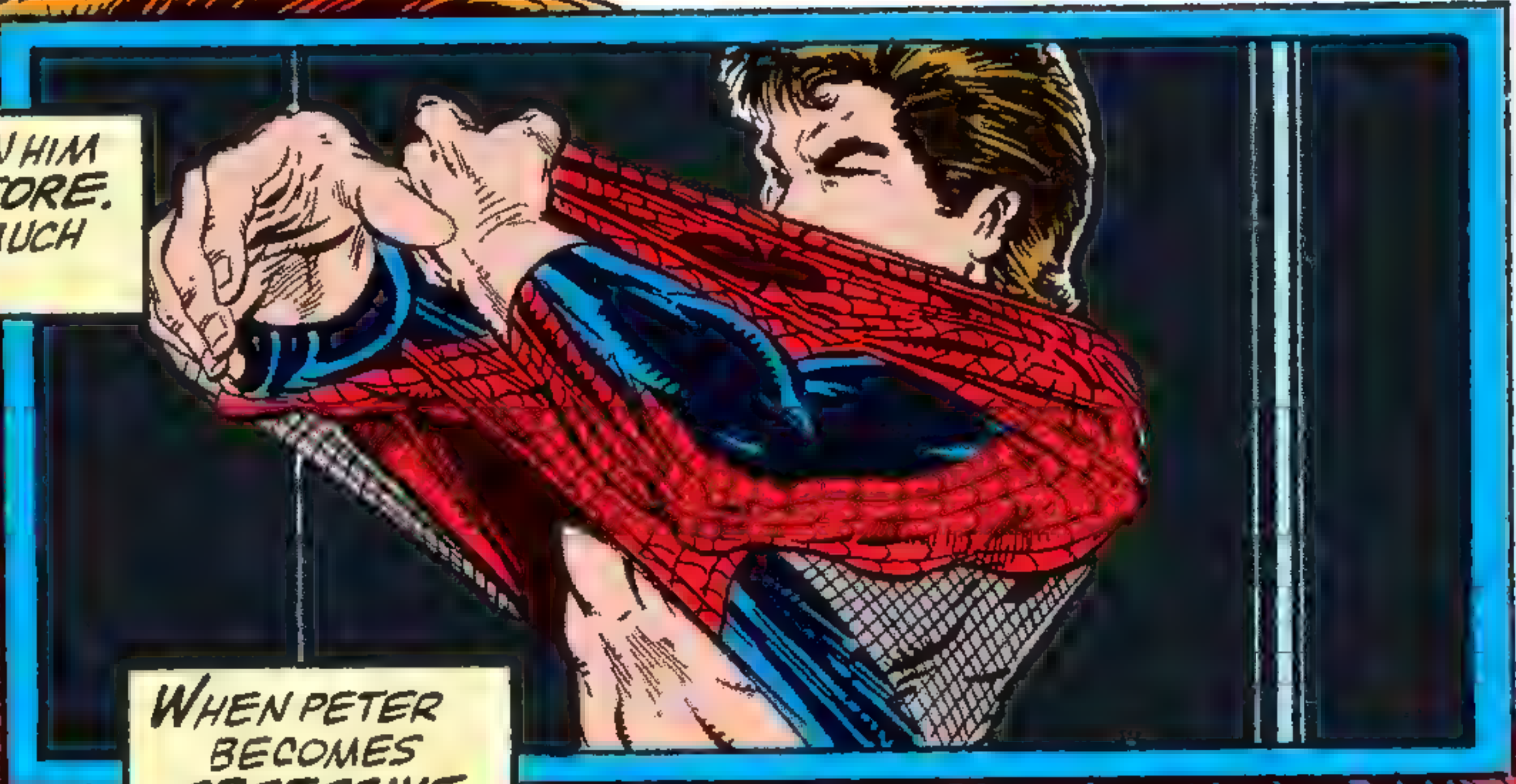
POLICE HAVE
FEW LEADS





SHE STARTS AFTER HIM, THEN SUDDENLY STOPS.

SHE HAS SEEN HIM LIKE THIS BEFORE. THERE ISN'T MUCH SHE CAN SAY.



WHEN PETER BECOMES OBSESSIVE, SHE KNOWS THAT HIS MIND IS STARTING TO PULL.



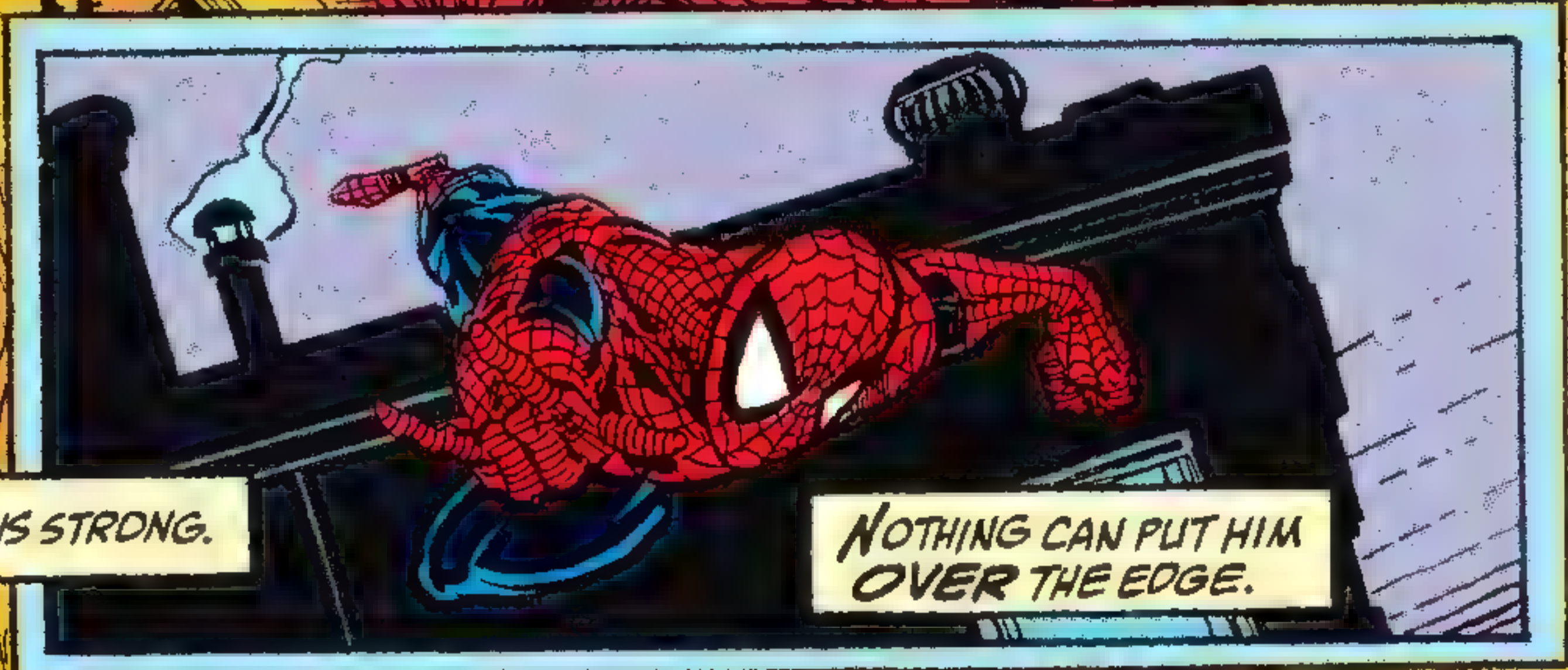
AND TUG.

AND STRETCH.

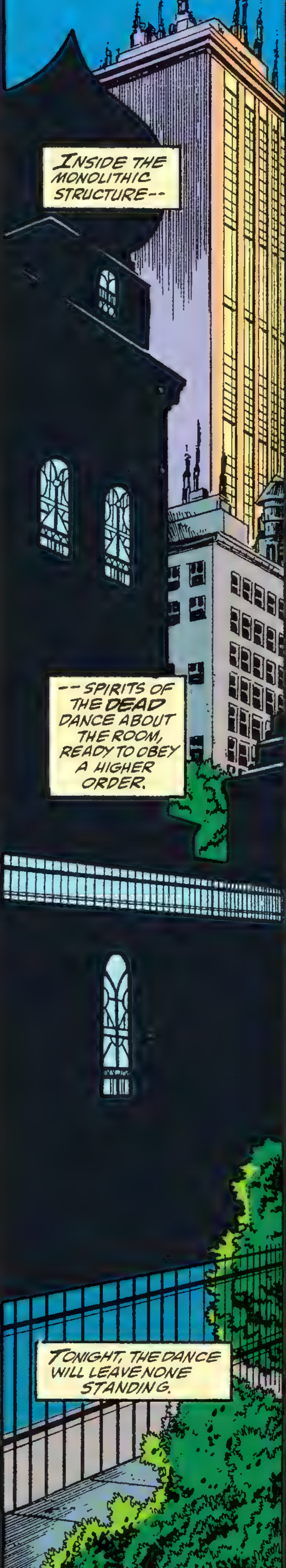
SHE ALSO KNOWS THAT PETER PARKER IS SPIDER-MAN. HE HAS GONE THROUGH MANY TRYING TIMES.

HE IS A HERO.

HE IS STRONG.




NOTHING CAN PUT HIM OVER THE EDGE.



INSIDE THE
MONOLITHIC
STRUCTURE--

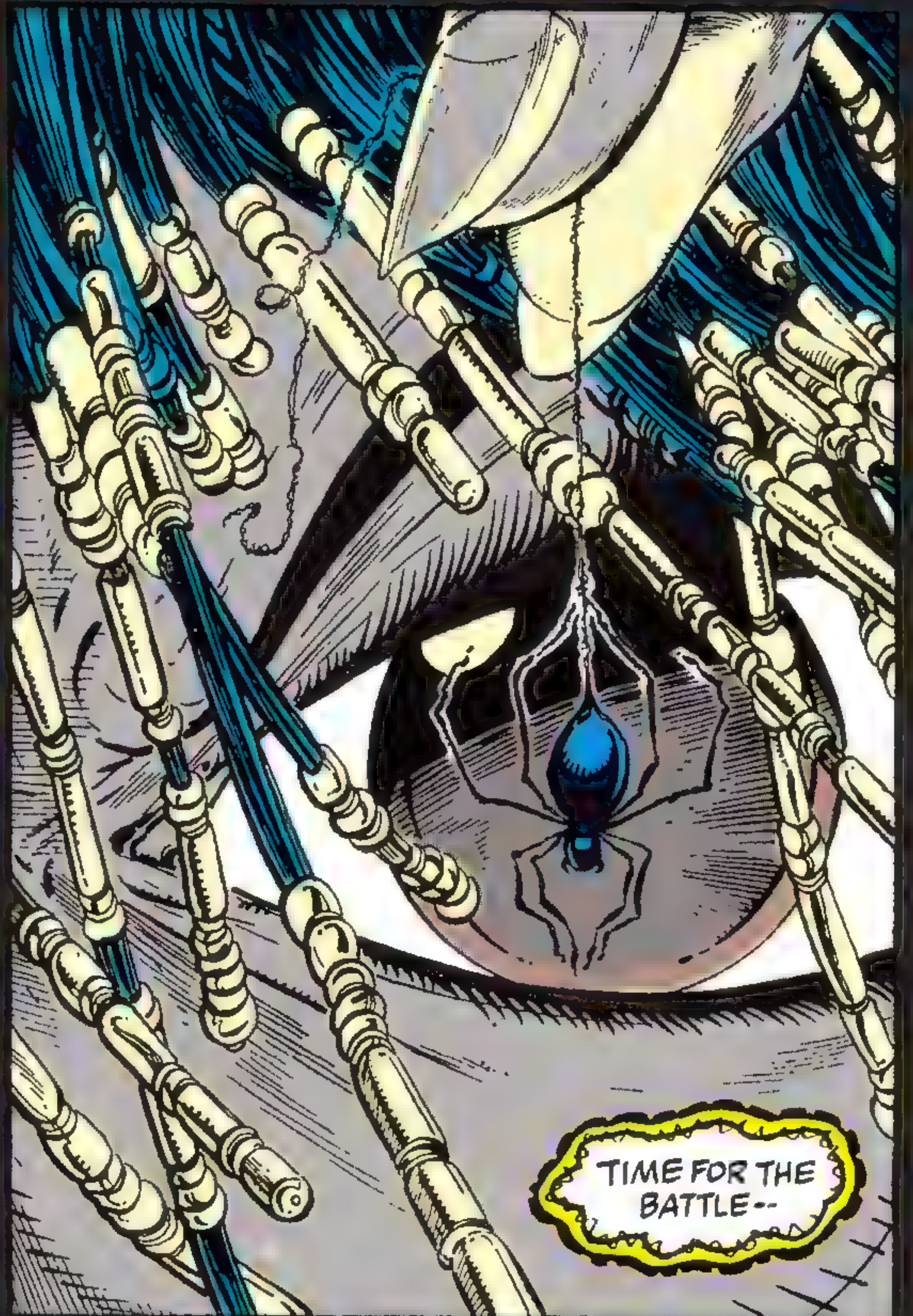
-- SPIRITS OF
THE DEAD
DANCE ABOUT
THE ROOM,
READY TO OBEY
A HIGHER
ORDER.

TONIGHT, THE DANCE
WILL LEAVE NONE
STANDING.



FOR ITS
CONDUCTOR
HAS
NO SOUL.

IT IS
TIME.




"--TO BE
JOINED!"



THE ANCIENT
POTION HAS BEEN
HANDLED DOWN
THROUGH THE
CENTURIES.

ITS SIMPLICITY
MAKES IT EVEN MORE
FRIGHTENING.

THE RIGHT
INCANTATION
MIXED WITH THE
RIGHT
INGREDIENTS.




A SPIDER.

THE ANCIENT
POTION HAS BEEN
HANDLED DOWN
THROUGH THE
CENTURIES.

ITS SIMPLICITY
MAKES IT EVEN MORE
FRIGHTENING.

THE RIGHT
INCANTATION
MIXED WITH THE
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THE ANCIENT
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ITS SIMPLICITY
MAKES IT EVEN MORE
FRIGHTENING.

THE RIGHT
INCANTATION
MIXED WITH THE
RIGHT
INGREDIENTS.



A SPIDER.

**BODY
ASHES.**

A REPTILE.

MIXED TOGETHER--

--IN A POOL OF
FRESH
BLOOD.



IT IS
TIME.

--IN A POOL OF
FRESH
BLOOD.



IT IS
TIME.

DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

THE EVIL DANCE HAS
BECOME FRENZIED.

DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM DOOM

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

THE EVIL DANCE HAS
BECOME FRENZIED.

DOOM

WHAT'S HAPPENING?!

MY SPIDER-SENSE HAS BEEN BUZZING STRONGER AS I HEAD TO THE UPPER EAST SIDE.

BUT IT'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO FOCUS. AND NOW--

-- THIS SOLID POUNDING IN MY HEAD.

IT'S EVIL.

PENETRATING.

DEEP

WITHIN

YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS.

OM DOOM DOOM DOOM

UNG!!

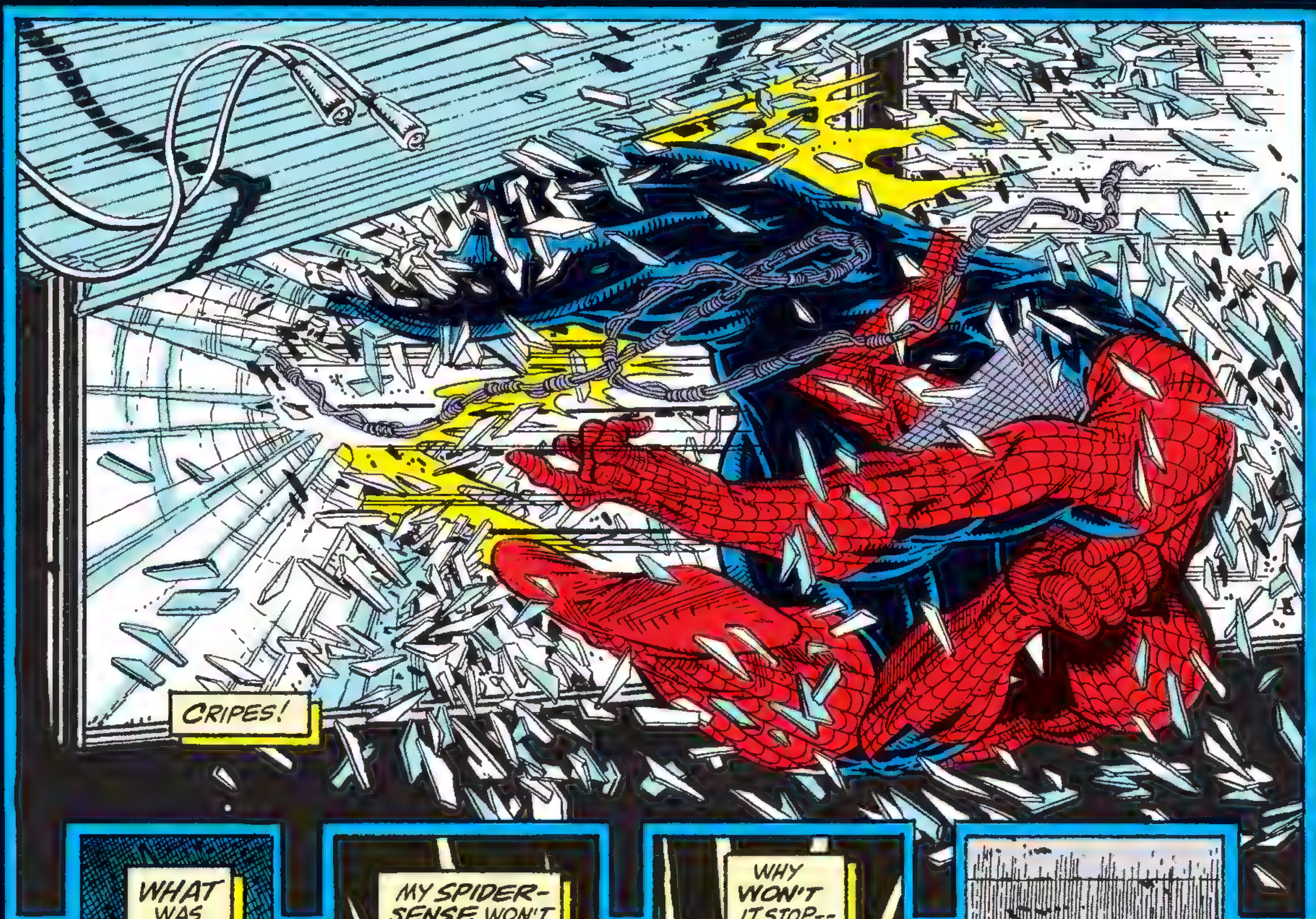
SCREWING WITH YOUR SPIDER-SENSE.

SLOWING DOWN YOUR REFLEXES.

YOU HAVE ONE CHANCE.

SHOOT YOUR WEBLINE BLINDLY--

-- AND HOPE IT HITS!



CRIPES!

WHAT
WAS
THAT!

MY SPIDER-
SENSE WON'T
SHUT OFF.

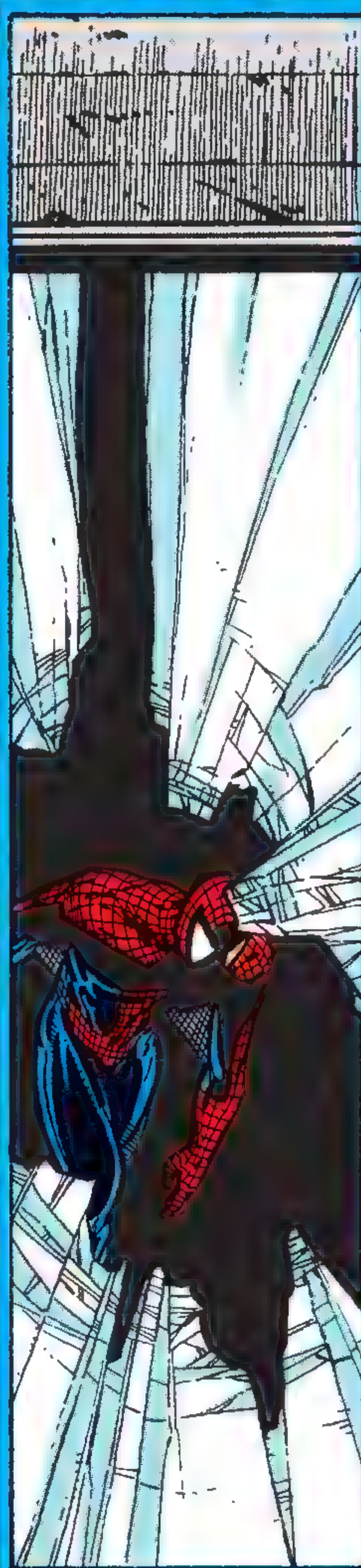
THE POUNDING--
--THE BUZZING--

CAN'T
CONCENTRATE.

WHY
WON'T
IT STOP--



--GO AWAY--



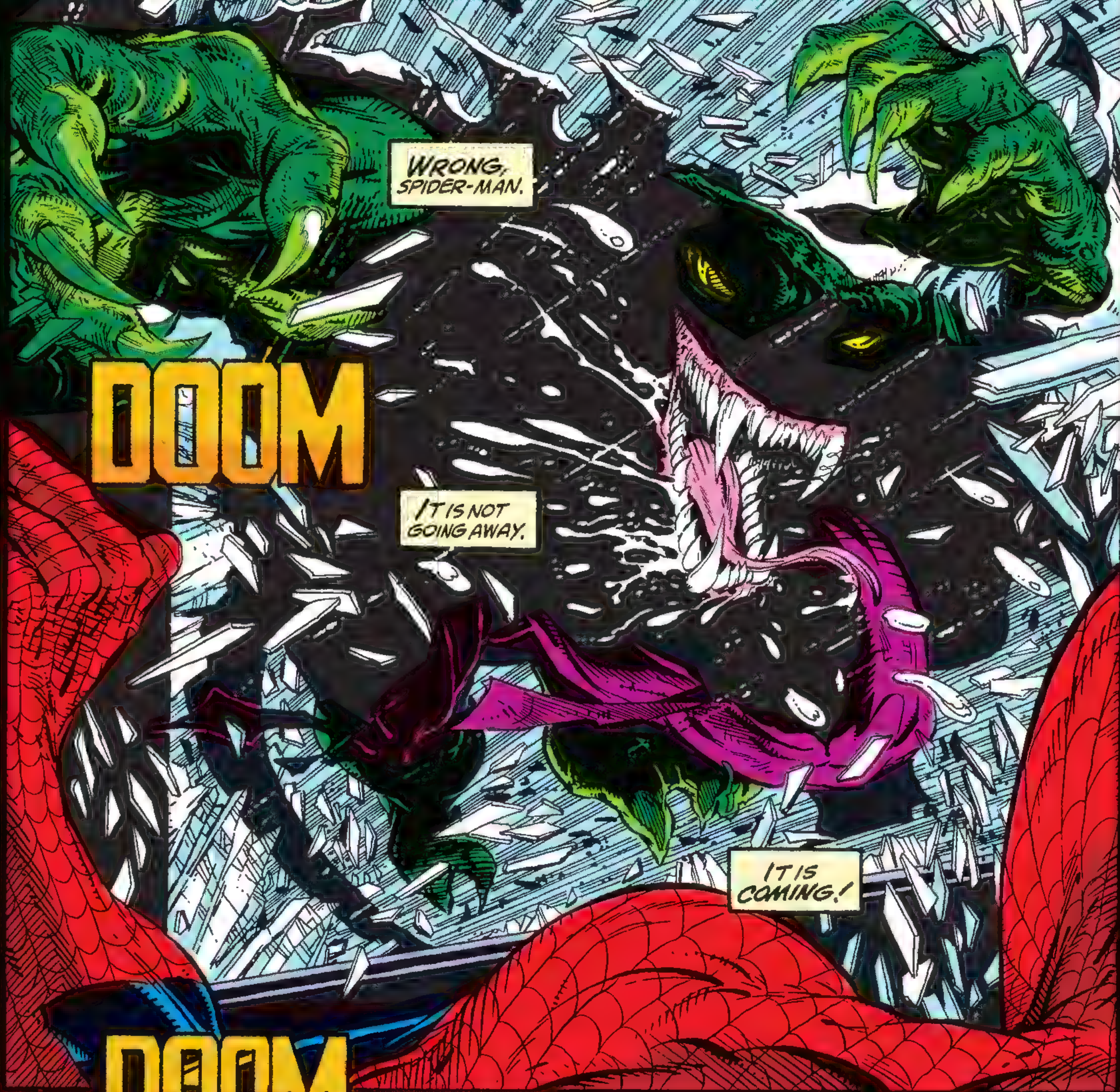
DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM



WRONG,
SPIDER-MAN.

IT IS NOT
GOING AWAY.

IT IS
COMING!

DOOM



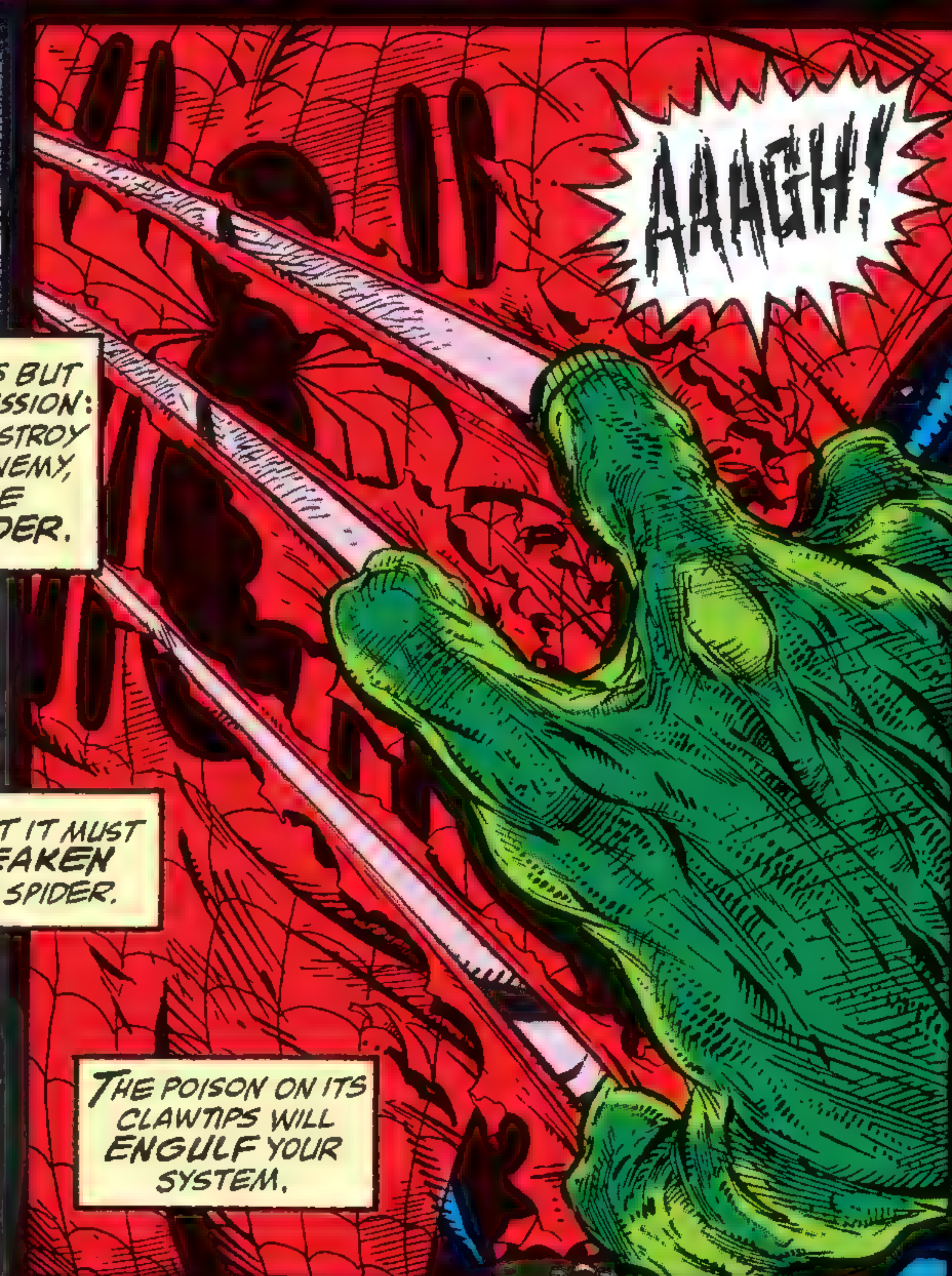
THIS KILLING
MACHINE IS
POSSESSED.

IT HAS BUT
ONE MISSION:
TO DESTROY
ITS ENEMY,
THE
SPIDER.

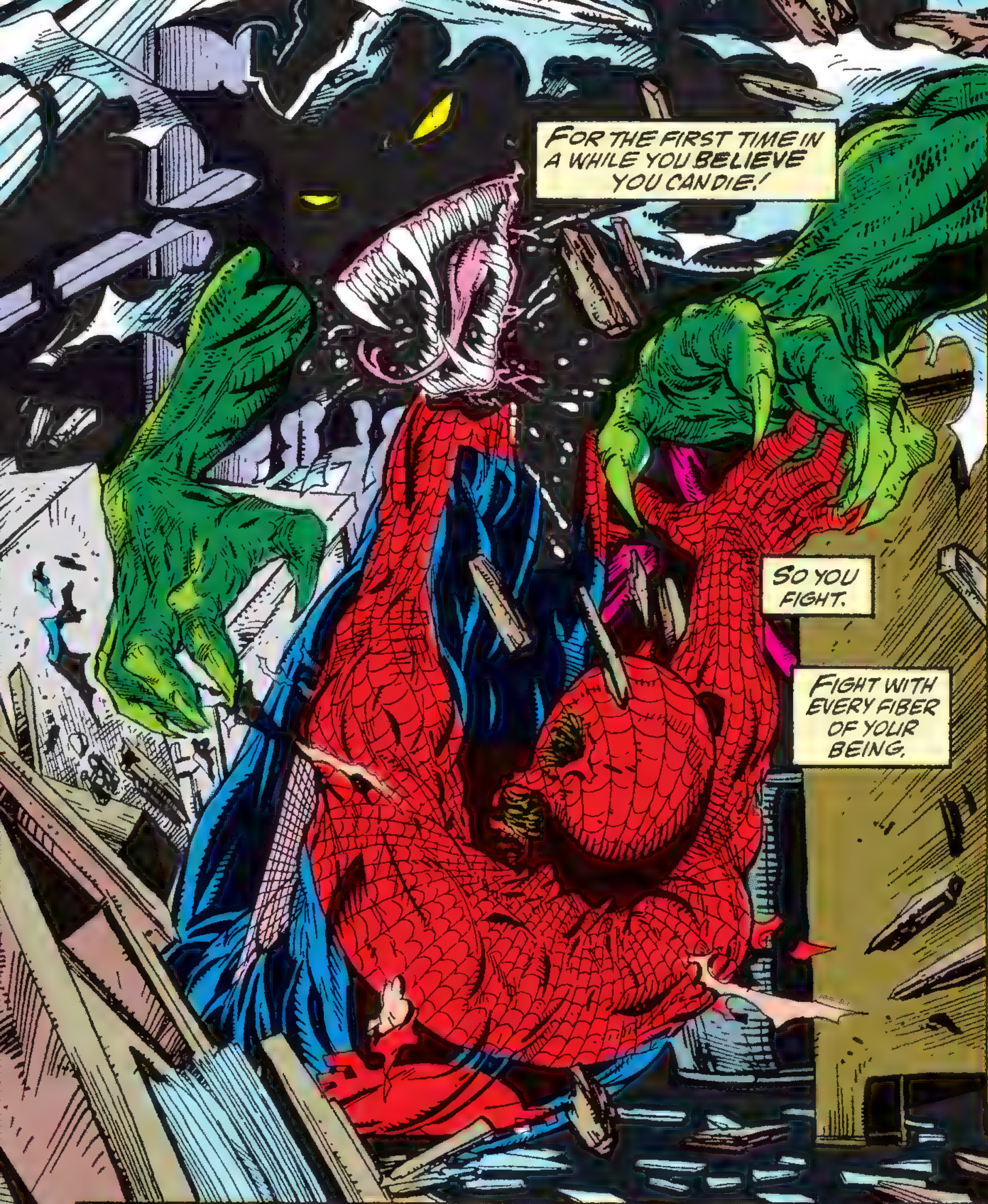
FIRST IT MUST
WEAKEN
THE SPIDER.

THE POISON ON ITS
CLAWTIPS WILL
ENGULF YOUR
SYSTEM.

DOOM



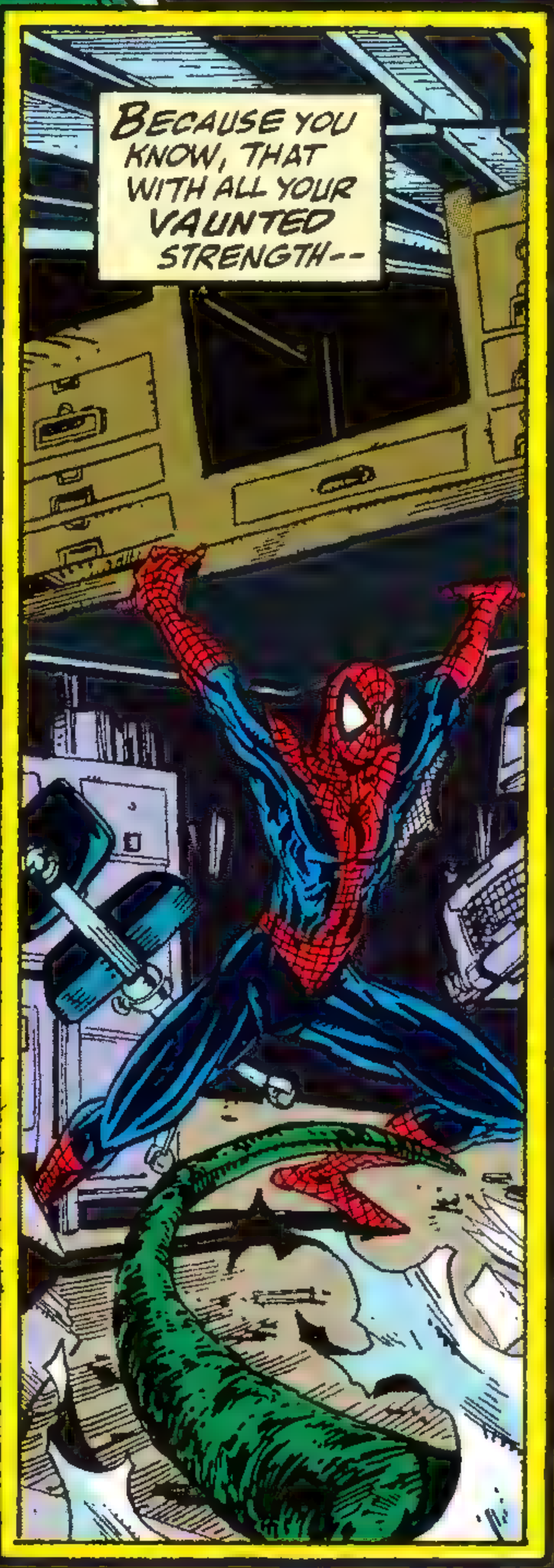
AAAGH!!



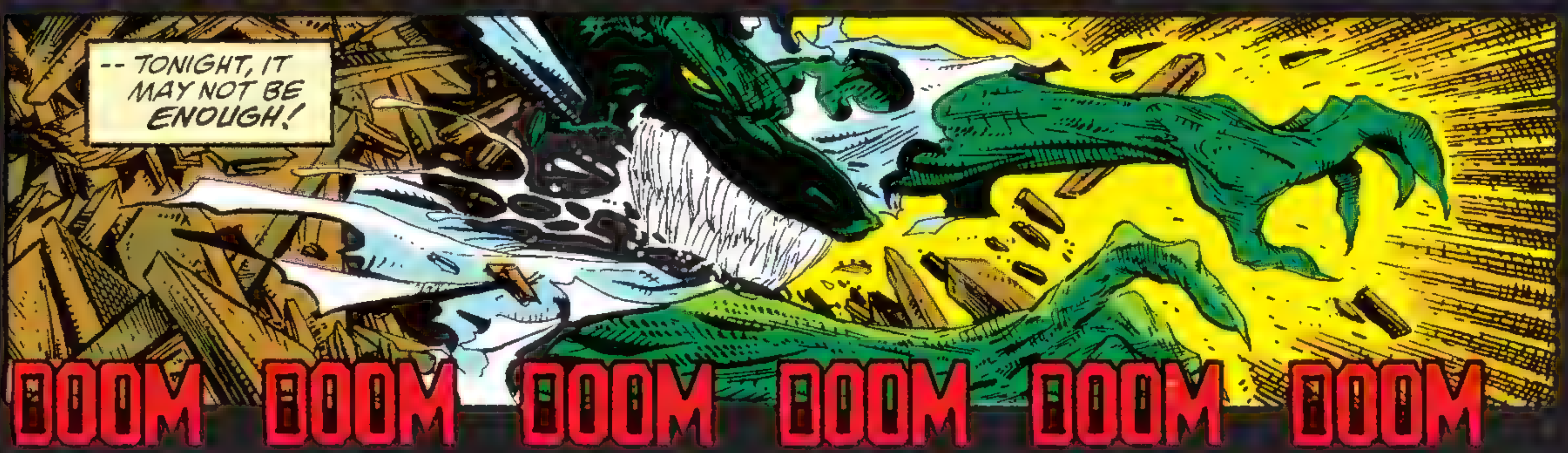
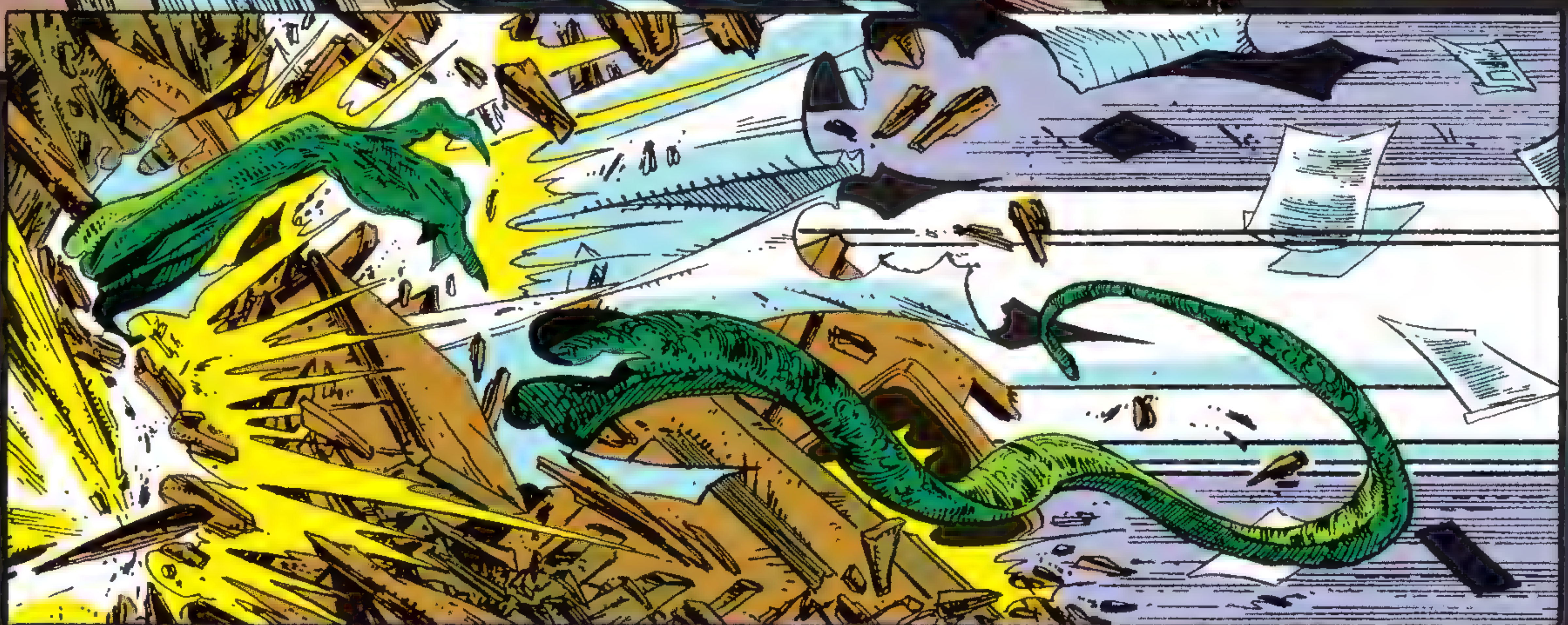
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN
A WHILE YOU BELIEVE
YOU CANDIE!

SO YOU
FIGHT.

FIGHT WITH
EVERY FIBER
OF YOUR
BEING.



BECAUSE YOU
KNOW, THAT
WITH ALL YOUR
VAUNTED
STRENGTH--



-- TONIGHT, IT
MAY NOT BE
ENOUGH!

BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM

IT'S NO GOOD--
I'VE GOT TO GET
AWAY--

--GIVE MYSELF A
CHANCE TO
REGROUP

WHO
KNOWS?

MUST--
GO--
CAN'T--
THINK--

PAIN.

--GO--

--PLEASE--

--GOD--

--MARYJANE--

MARY

JANE

HELP

ME.

BLOOD!*


THE LIZARD
IS DRIVEN
INSANE BY THE
THOUGHT. MIND
EXPLODING--

ELEVATOR--

ESCAPE.

THEN WHAT?!

--THE CREATURE MUST HAVE
BLOOD!

A dynamic comic book illustration showing Spider-Man in his red and blue suit on the left, looking towards the Green Goblin. The Green Goblin, in his green suit and mask, is in the center, tearing through a metal structure with his claws. Debris is flying everywhere. The background shows a cityscape with buildings. Two yellow speech bubbles with black text are present.

IT SLICES THROUGH THE METAL DOORS LIKE SOME SAVAGE CARNIVORE TEARING AT MEAT.

SPIDER-MAN DOESN'T HAVE TIME TO THINK--

SPIDER-MAN DOESN'T
HAVE TIME TO THINK--

YET, THE MONSTER
MAKES NO SOUND.

THE EVIL SPIRITS DANCE
NO LONGER.



WHAT HAVE I DONE?

DIDN'T--
THINK.

THE DOC--

--THE DOC--



THE DANCE
IS OVER--

--BUT THE POISON
LIVES ON.

DIDN'T
MEAN

HAD TO
MOVE

PROTECT
MYSELF

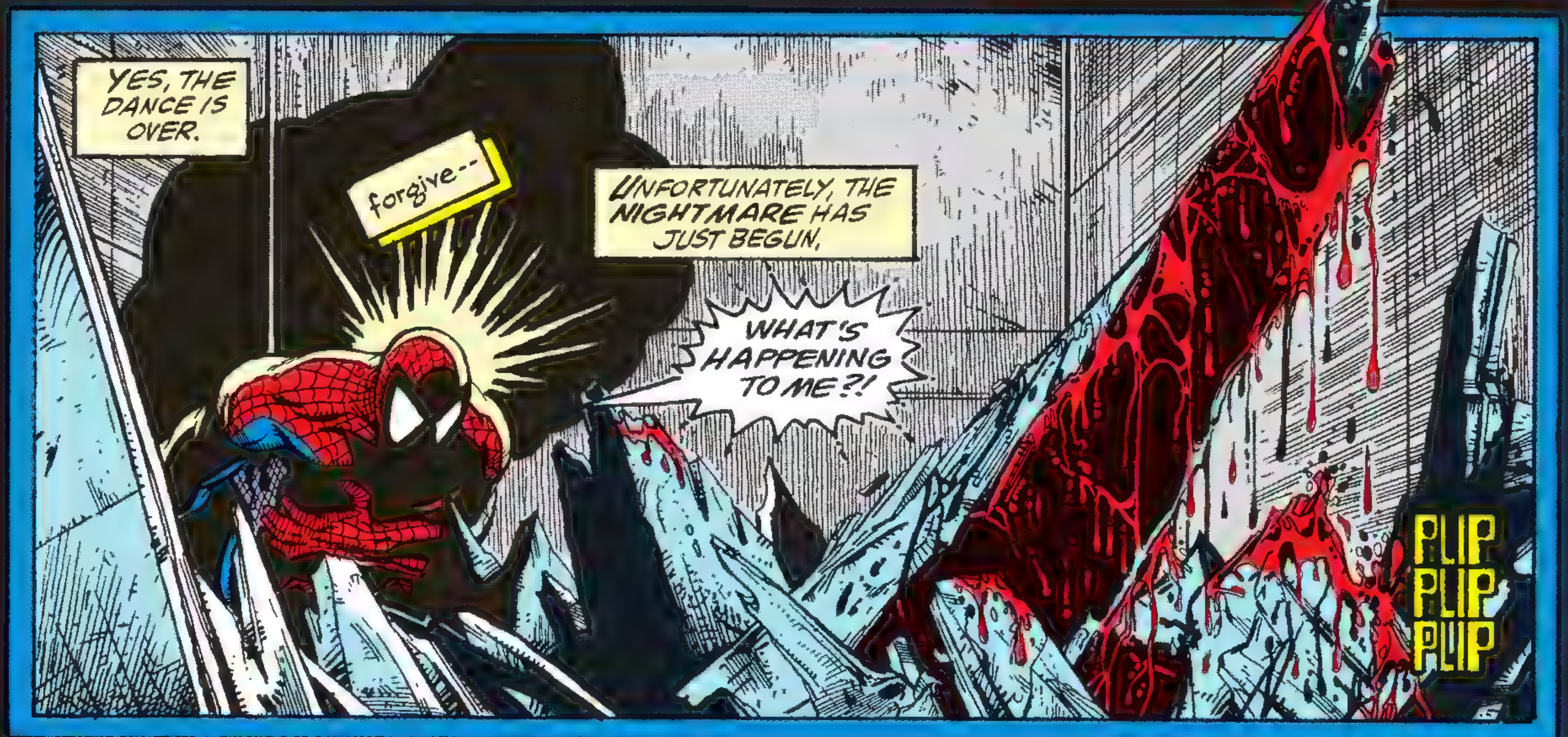
SORRY



I AM--

--SO--SORRY--

DOC--PLEASE--



YES, THE
DANCE IS
OVER.

forgive--

UNFORTUNATELY, THE
NIGHTMARE HAS
JUST BEGUN.

WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO ME?!

PLIP
PLIP
PLIP

MANHATTAN.

ONE OF THE
MORE FABULOUS
NIGHTCLUBS.

Trixie SEZ

LET'S GO
ITALIANO,
BABY!

MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER
HAS DONE MANY THINGS IN HER LIFE.
MOPING AROUND THE HOUSE ISN'T
ONE OF THEM.

SHE FIGURES HER
HUSBAND WILL BE
OUT, PLAYING
SPIDER-MAN,
MOST OF THE
NIGHT.

SO WHY
WASTE A
NIGHT
OFF.

A CLASSIC 'SEIZE-THE-
MOMENT' TYPE PERSON,
MARY JANE CAN DO THIS
BECAUSE OF SELF-CONFIDENCE--

-- AND HER CONFIDENCE
IN HER HUSBAND.

SPIDER-MAN ALWAYS WINS.
THE DAY SHE STOPS BELIEVING
THAT--

COME ON,
GUYS! LET'S
SEE YOU TRY
TO KEEP
UP!

-- HER DANCE
WILL BE OVER
TOO.

BACK
AT THE
SOMBRE
MANSION--

COME
SIT,
MY
LITTLE
ONE.

LULL
YOURSELF
INTO A
FALSE
SENSE OF
SECURITY.

PERFECT.

-- SPELLS,
POTIONS,
AND
CURSES
ECHO
THROUGH
THE
HALLS.

THE
SPIDER
IS
HANDLED
EVER SO
DELICATELY.

LET YOUR
MIND RELAX
AND YOUR
SOUL
BECOME
VULNERABLE.

YOU'VE GOT TO THINK,
PETER. IGNORE THE
PAIN--IGNORE-- THE
PAIN IN YOUR BODY.

POISON.

TRY TO MAKE SOME
SENSE OF THIS.

THE DOC--THE
LIZARD--

-- WHY DID HE
KILL THOSE
PEOPLE?


HE'S OUT OF CONTROL.
SOMETHING'S SCREWY--
AND MY GUTS--THEY'RE
KILLING ME--

POISON.

HE WAS NEVER A
MURDERER--

-- BUT, THE LOOK IN HIS
EYES-- LIKE TWO
BLACK HOLES.

WHAT WENT
WRONG?

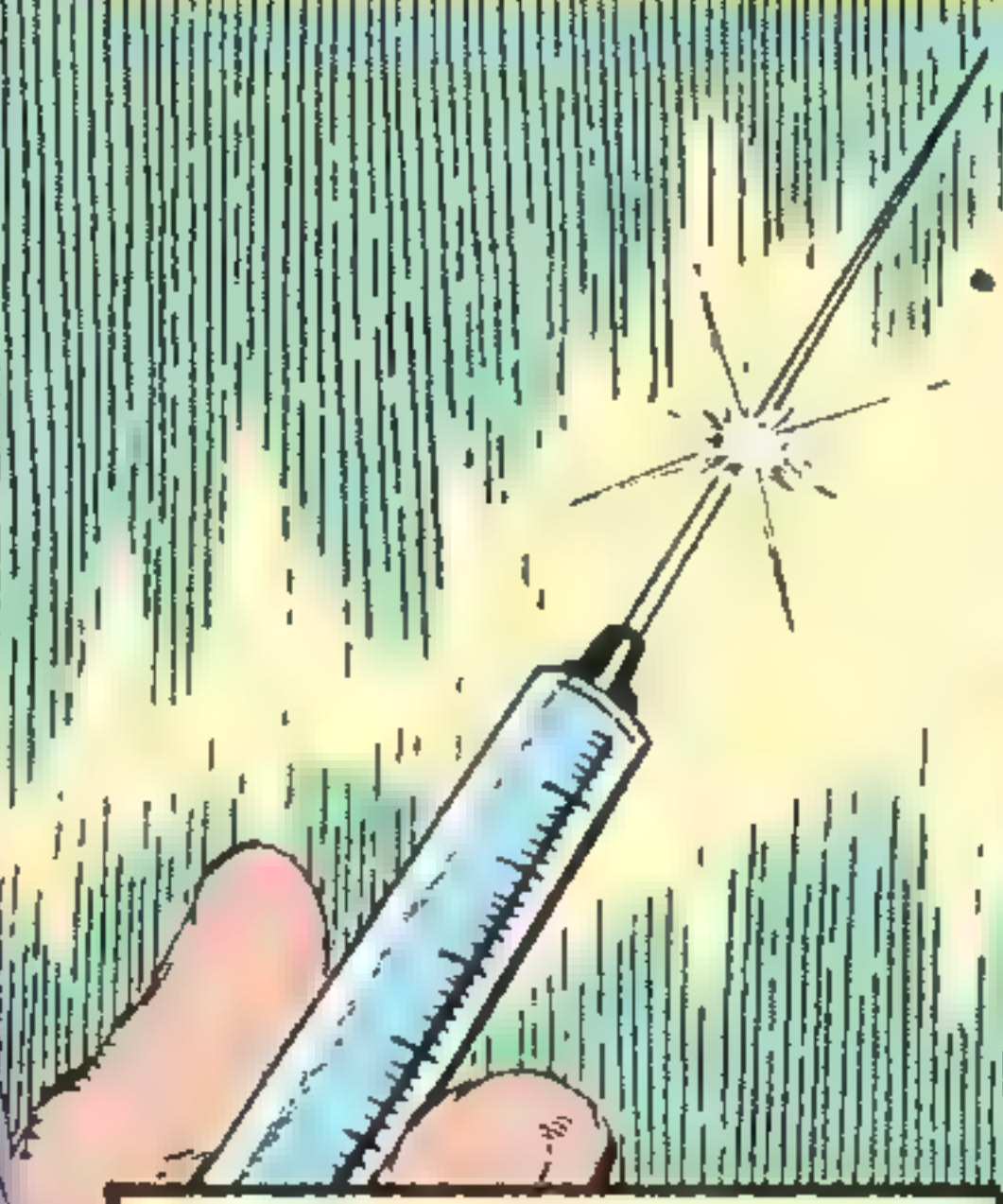


DR. CURT CONNORS
WAS A FRIEND. A WAR
INJURY COST HIM HIS
ARM. THROUGH
EXPERIMENTS---



--HE DEVELOPED FORMULAS
FOR REGENERATION OF
LIMBS-- LIKE THOSE OF
REPTILES.

USING
HIMSELF
AS A
GUINEA
PIG, HIS
FORMULA
GREW
BACK HIS
MISSING
LIMB!



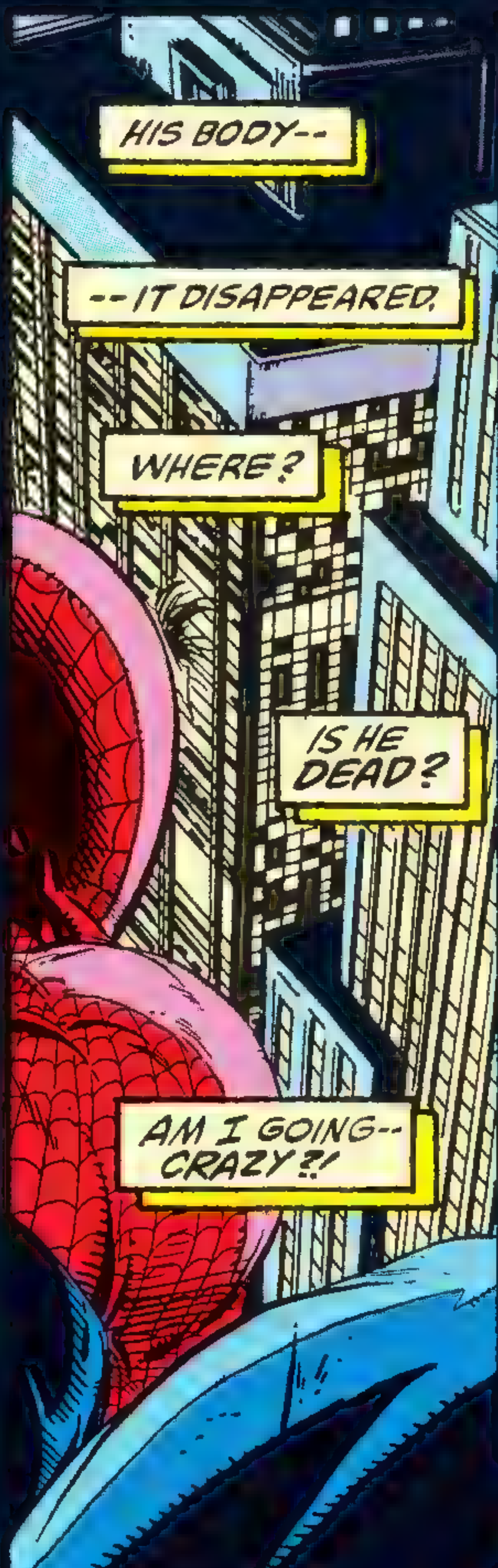
BUT TO WHAT END?

HOWEVER, IT
CHANGED THE
DOC--CHANGED
HIM INTO A
SAVAGE
MONSTER--

A HUMAN
LIZARD!

WITH A BLINDING
HATRED FOR ALL
MAMMALS! NOW--
I'VE KILLED HIM.

WHY?



HIS BODY--

-- IT DISAPPEARED,

WHERE?

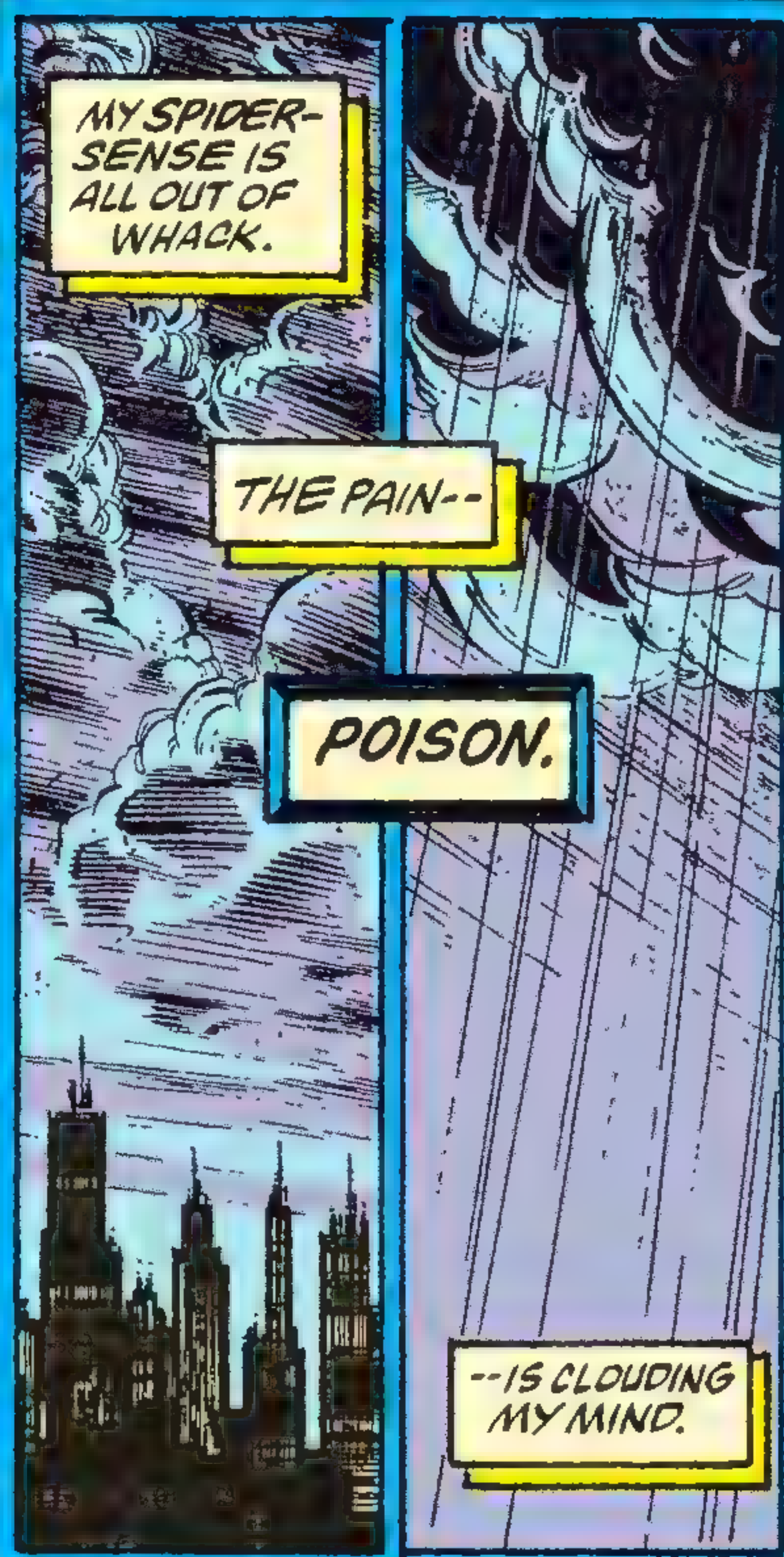
IS HE
DEAD?

AM I GOING--
CRAZY?!

THIS PAIN--

POISON.

CAN'T LET
MARY JANE
SEE ME
LIKE THIS.



MY SPIDER-
SENSE IS
ALL OUT OF
WHACK.

THE PAIN--

POISON.

-- IS CLOUDING
MY MIND.



NOW, MY
PET--

-- IT IS TIME
FOR THE
HERO--

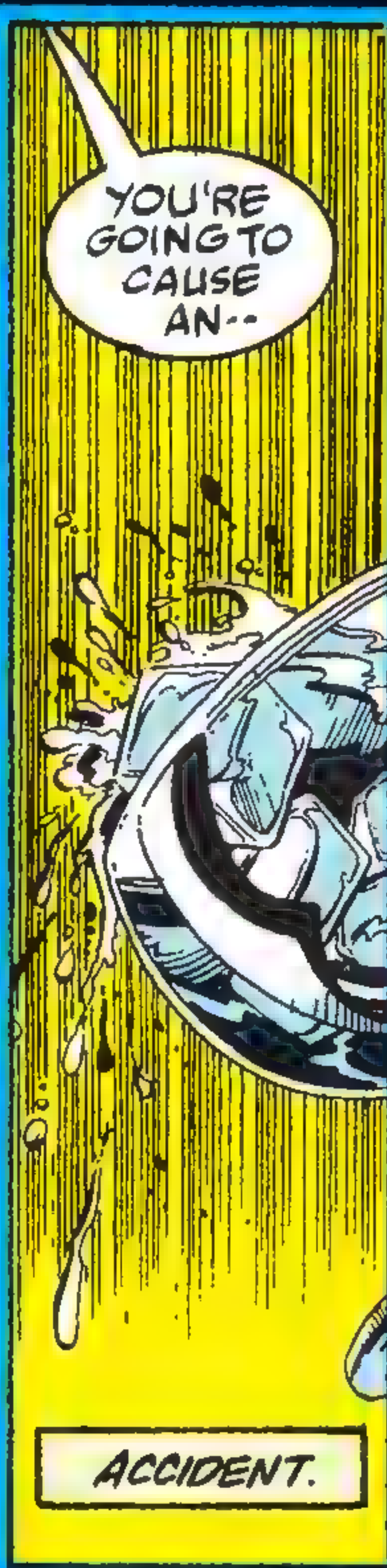
-- TO FALL!

MOOOOOO MOOOOOO



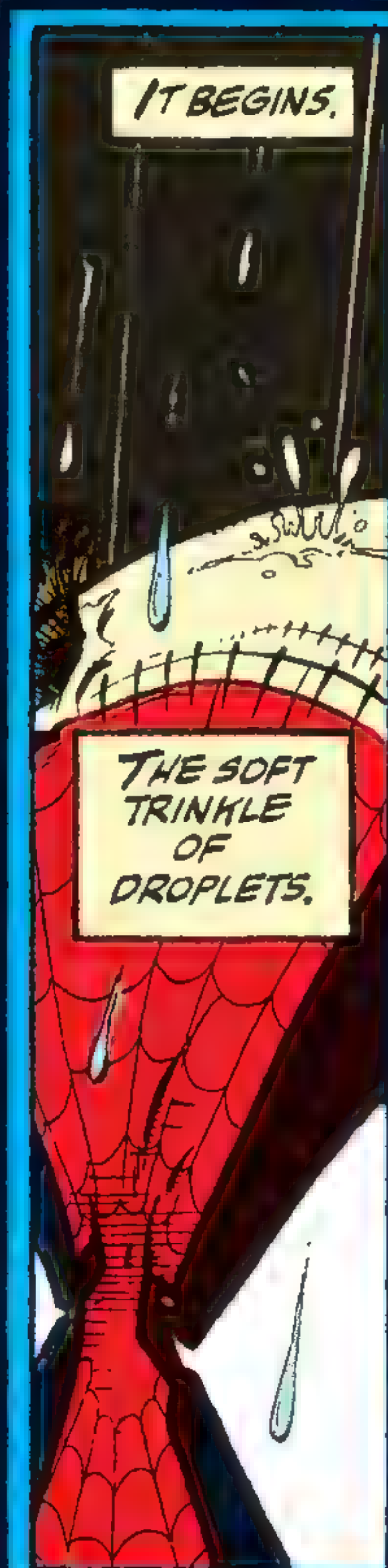
HEY, BABE,
WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

WATCH IT,
BUDDY--



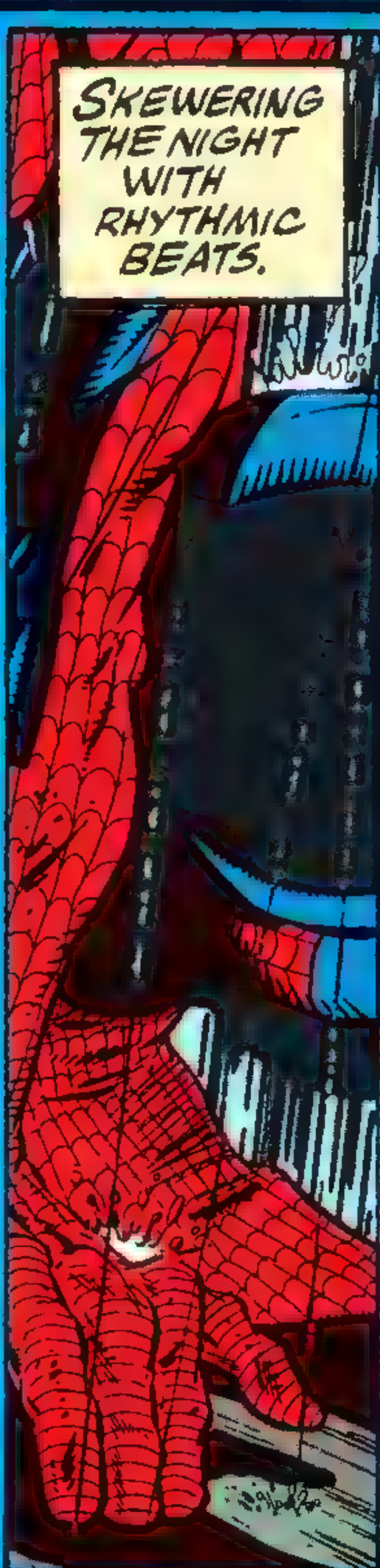
YOU'RE
GOING TO
CAUSE AN--

ACCIDENT.

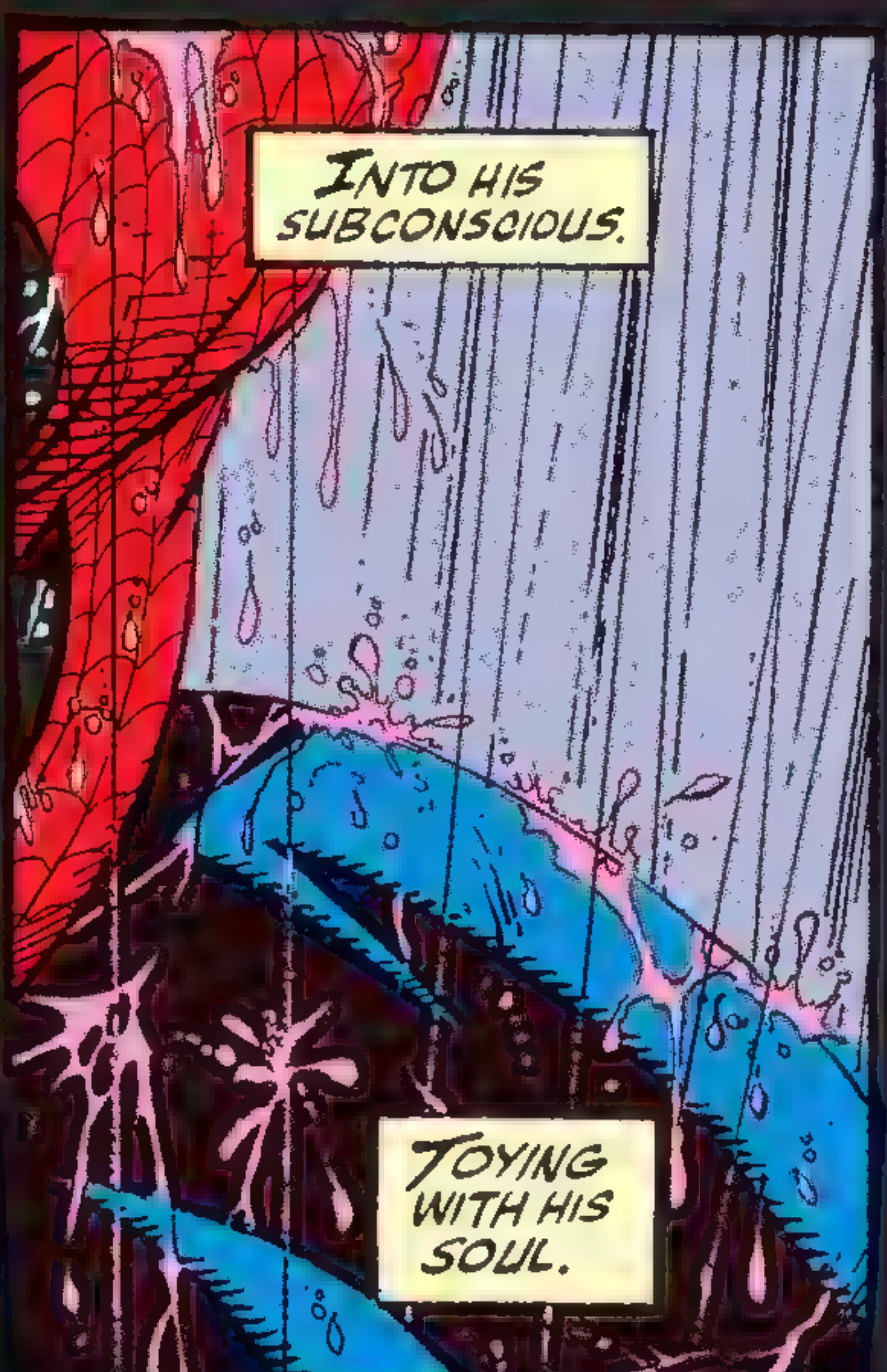
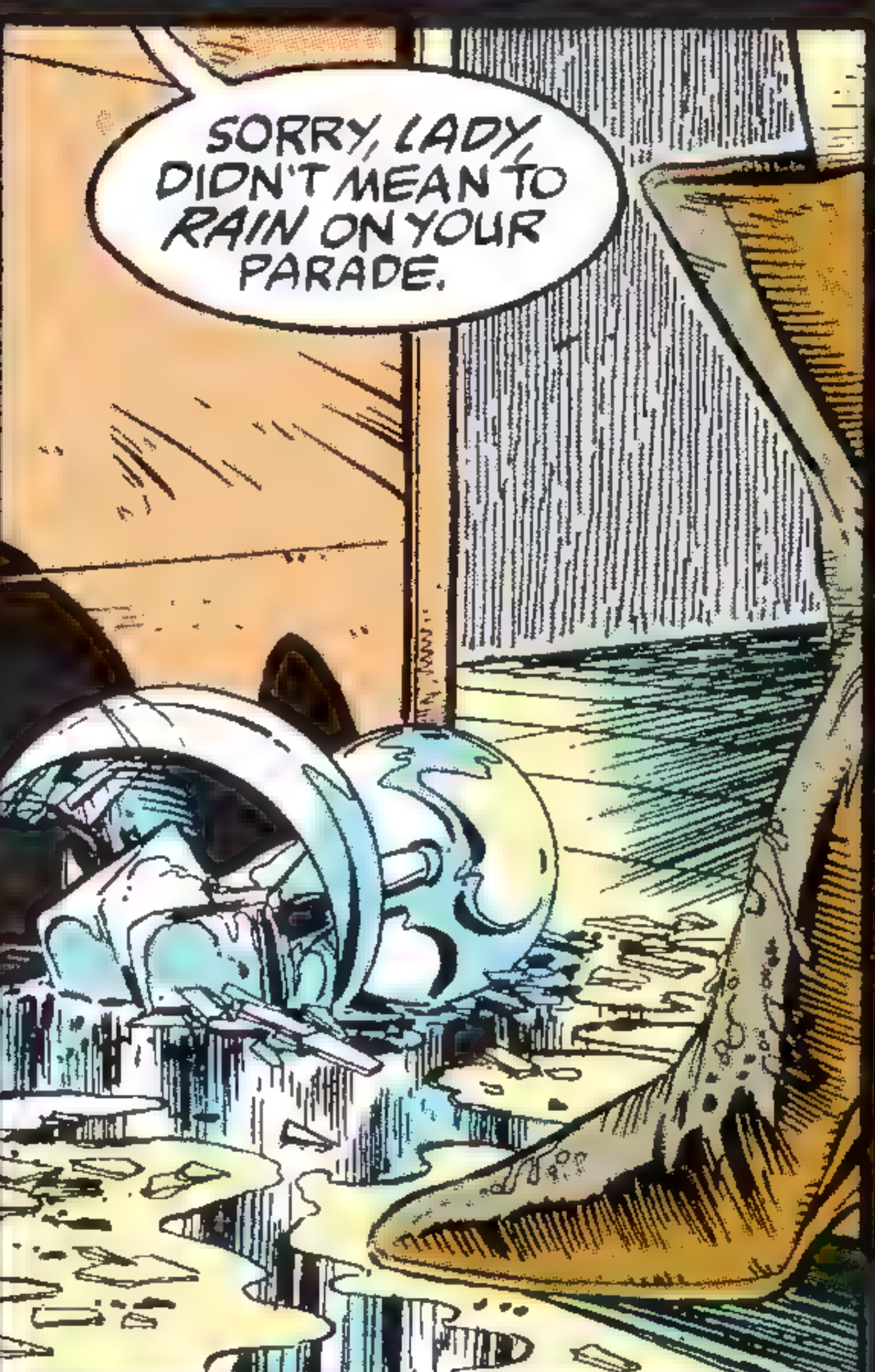
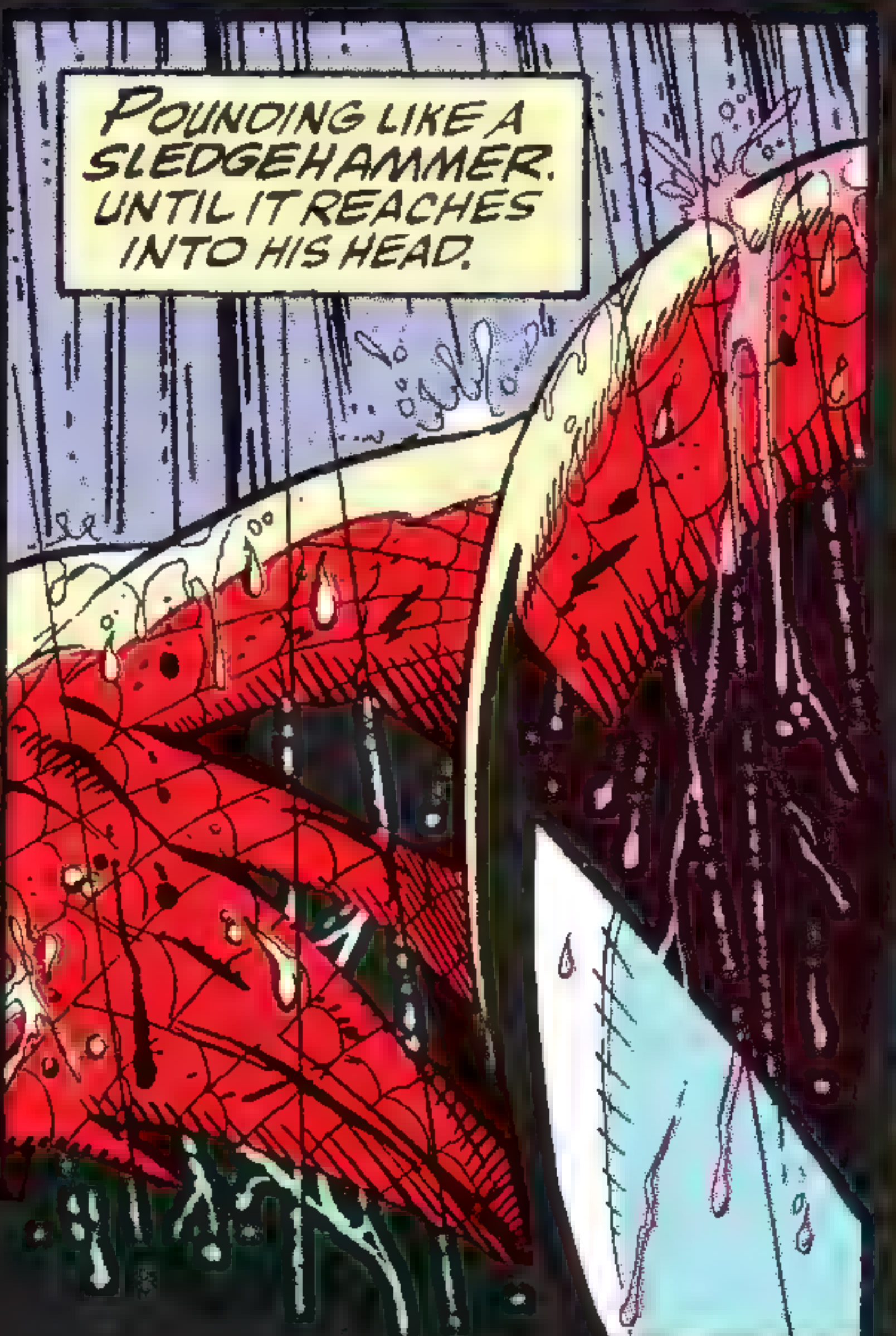
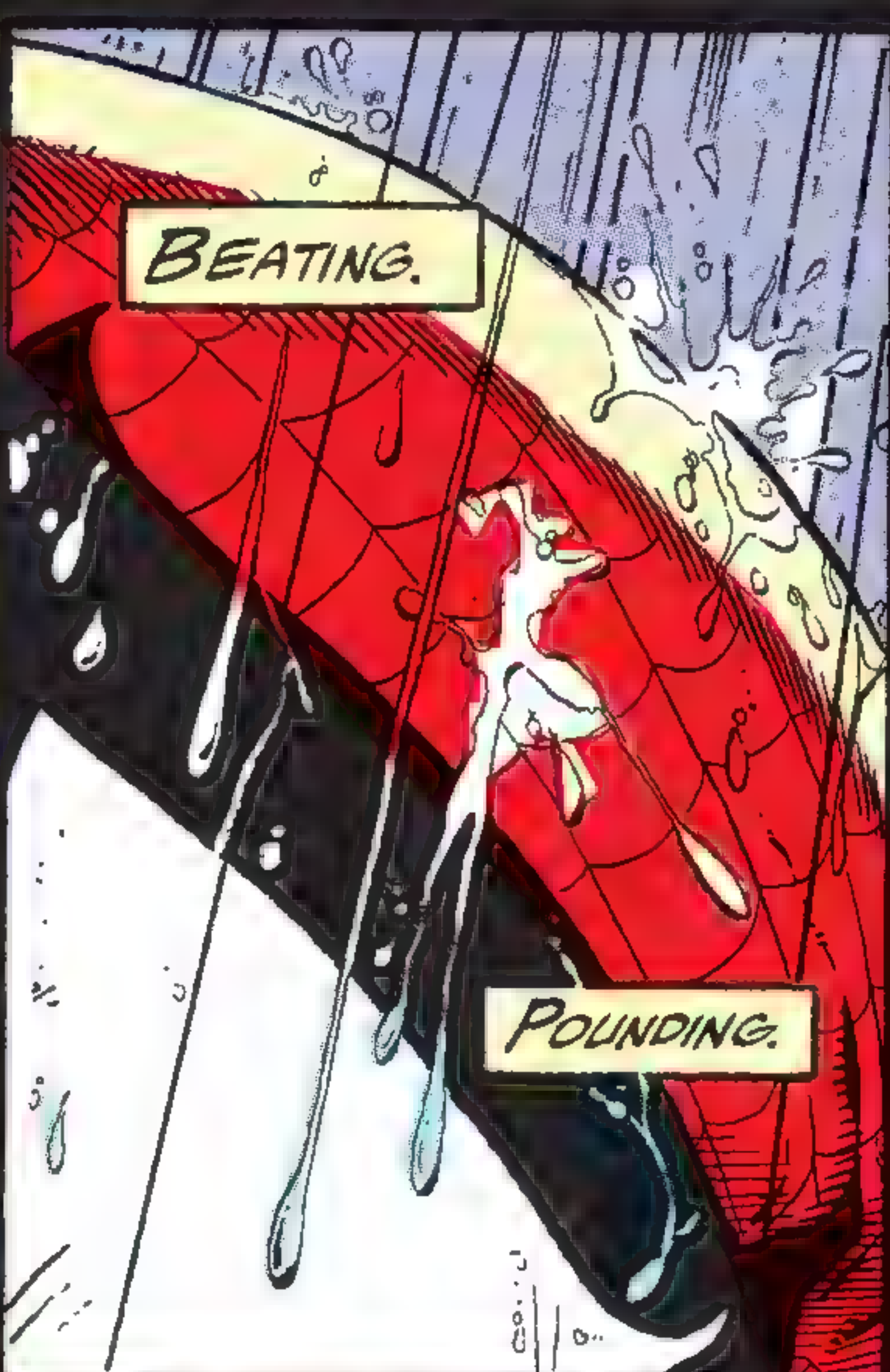
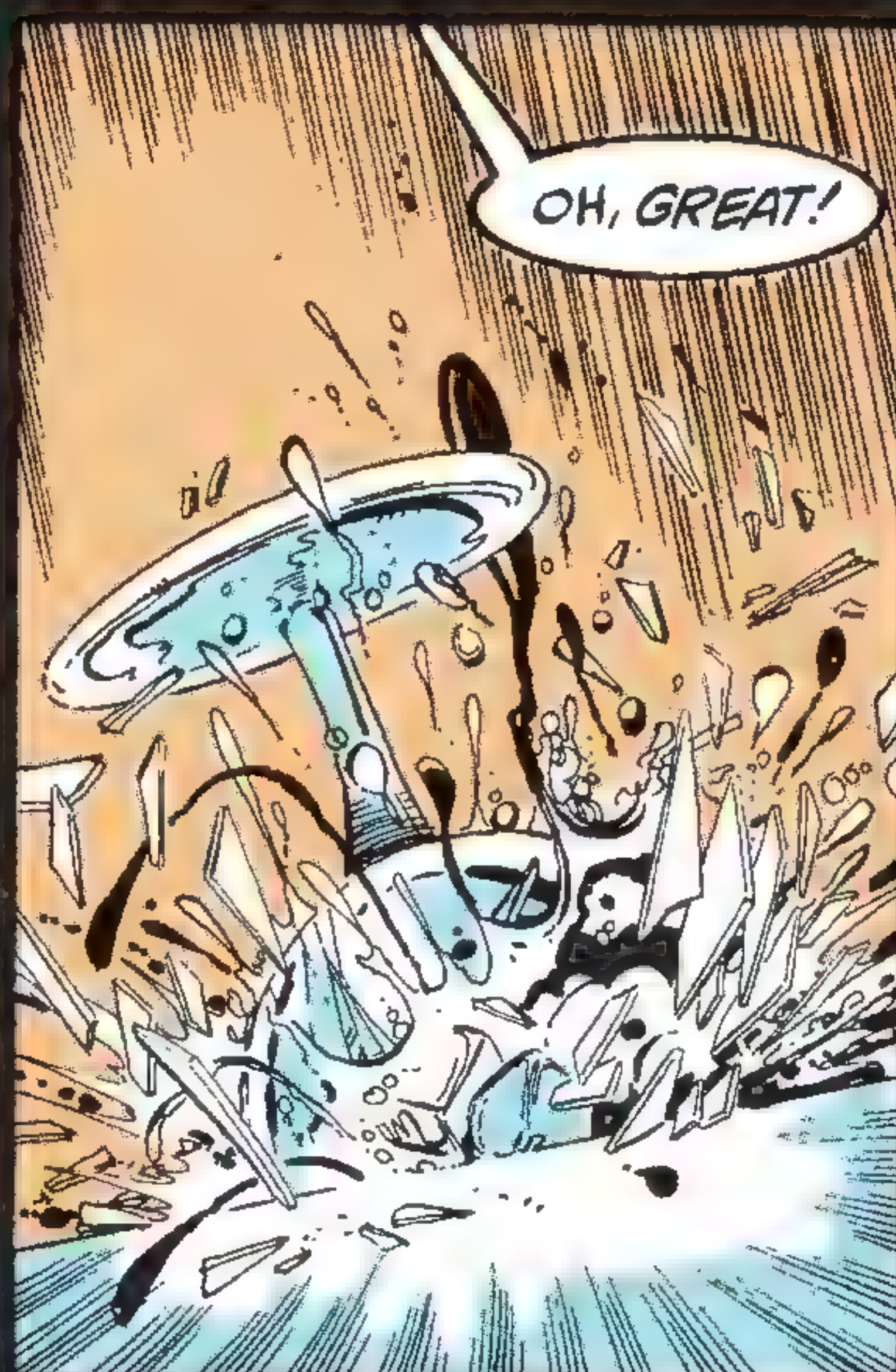
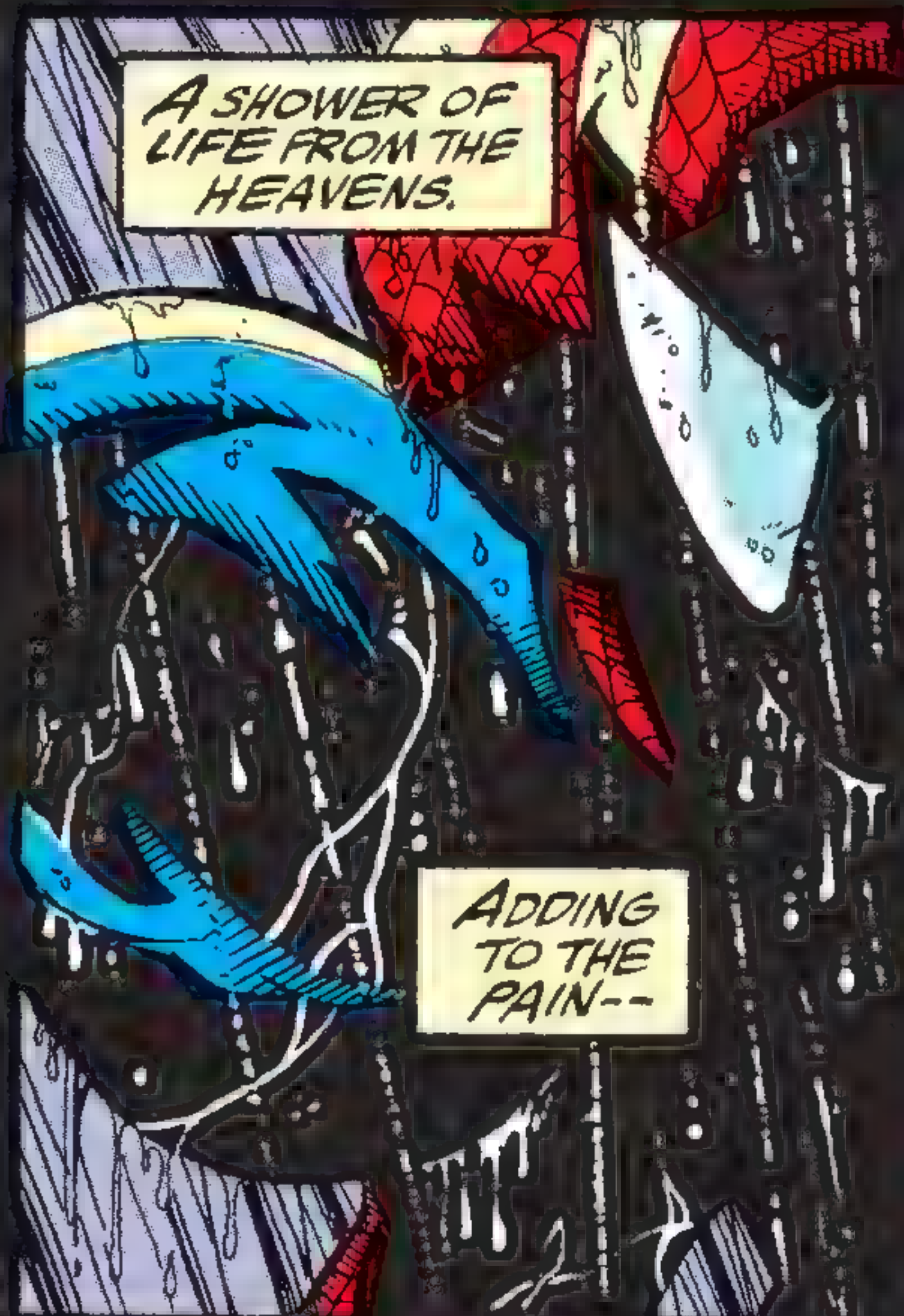


IT BEGINS.

THE SOFT
TRINKLE
OF
DROPLETS.



SKEWERING
THE NIGHT
WITH
RHYTHMIC
BEATS.



PLAYING
HIM THE
FOOL!

UNH--!

BLOOD.

Blood!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

THE STORM, THE PAIN,
THE POISON. HIS SENSES
HAVE BEEN BOMBARDED.

HE SITS MOMENTARILY
FROZEN.

THEN LOOKS UP TO
THE HEAVENS.

no.

DOOM

DOOM

HIS MIND TELLS
HIM THAT WHAT
HE SEES CAN-
NOT BE.

DOOM

THAT THIS IS ALL A
DREAM.

DOOM

OUR HERO HAD BETTER
WAKE UP THEN, BECAUSE
TONIGHT IT IS RAINING
DOWN-- DEATH!

DOOM

PRAY FOR
OUR HERO.

Part 3

DOOM

MARVEL[®]
COMICS

SOMETHING 2 STRANGE IS GOING ON H

ER E

SPIDER-MAN

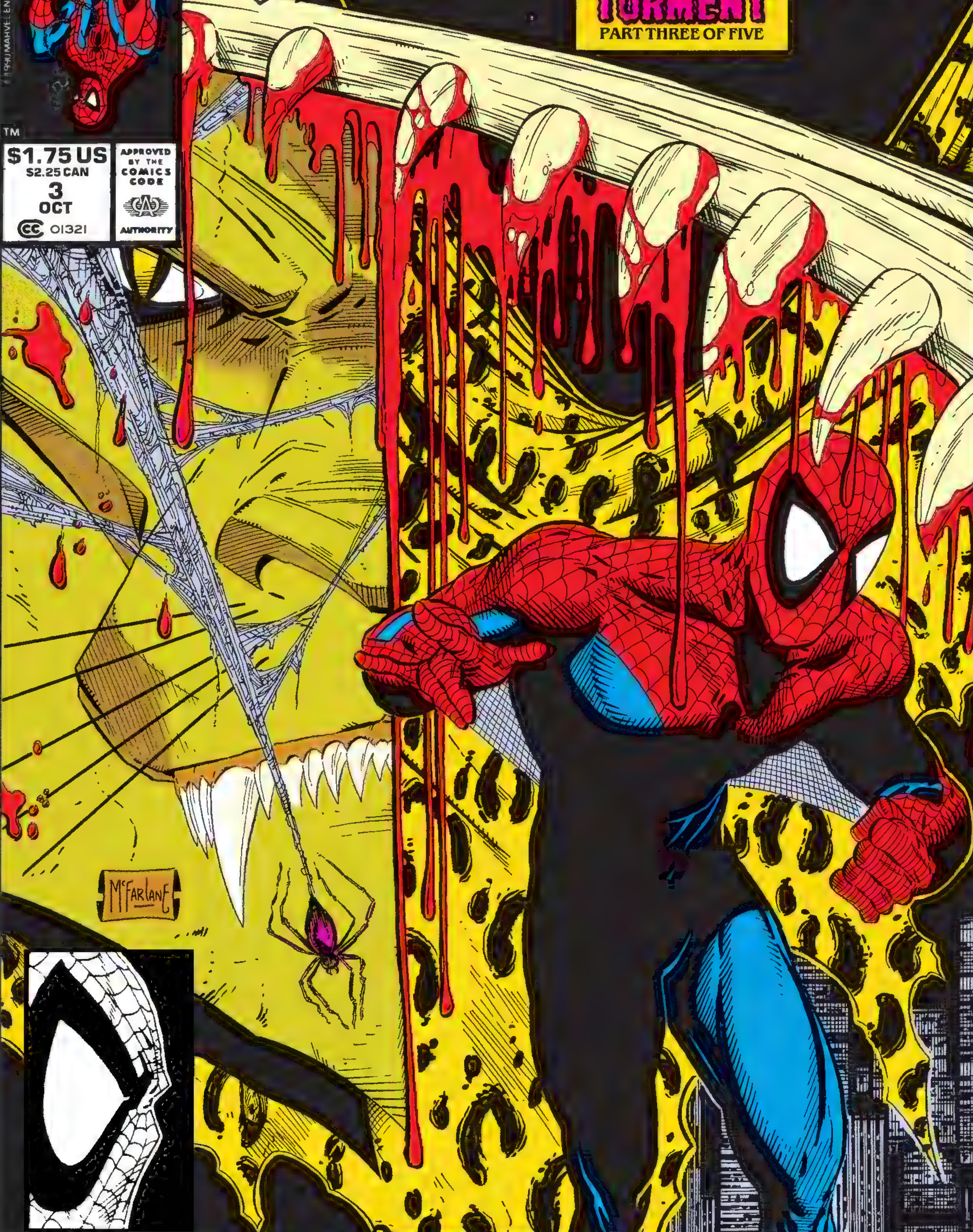
"TORMENT"
PART THREE OF FIVE

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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY





NEW
YORK.

THE CITY IS
COVERED
WITH A
BLANKET
OF RAIN.

IT IS JUST PAST
MIDNIGHT,
BUT WEATHER
AND TIME
HAVE NO
MEANING
TO THIS
SPRAWLING
LANDSCAPE.

HIDING THE
DENIZENS
WHO DWELL
WITHIN.

THE BUILDINGS
ARCH
UPWARD.

HIGHER
AND
HIGHER
THEY
CLIMB.

REACHING
HEIGHTS
UNIMAGINED
A CENTURY
EARLIER.

QUIET.

UNFEELING.

THESE GIANT
BARRICADES
SERVE AS
PROTECTORS.

STOIC, THE
TOWERING
BEHEMOTHS
ARE TOTALLY
UNAWARE
OF THE
ENVIRONMENT.

THEY ARE
IMMOVABLE
THESE BUILDINGS
THAT SEEM TO--

DOOM

--RISE ABOVE
IT ALL!

YES, THESE
BRICKS ARE
UNMOVABLE
BUT ONLY
UNTIL THEY
ARE MET WITH
A FORCE
GREATER
THAN THEIRS.

LOCKED IN A
DEADLY
BATTLE,

THE REASON
FOR WHICH
SPIDER-MAN
HAS
ABSOLUTELY
NO CLUE.

THE PLAYERS.

SPIDER-MAN.

THE LIZARD.

DOOM

STAN LEE

PRESENTS:

TORMENT

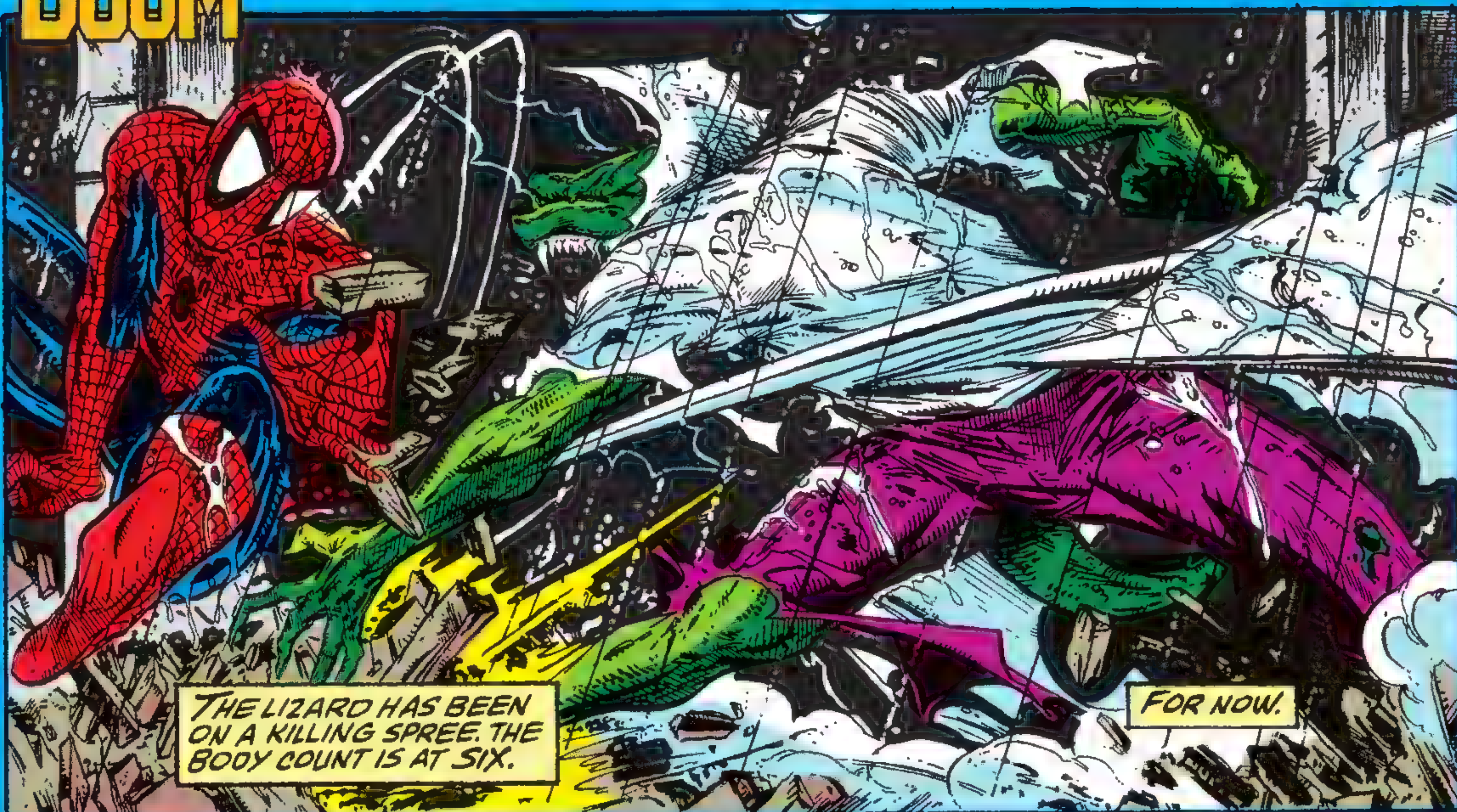
PART 3
ARTIST-
WRITER
TODD
McFARLANE

LETTERS
Rick PARKER
COLOR
BOB SHAREN
EDITOR
JIM SALICRUP
EDITOR
IN CHIEF
Tom DeFazio

DOOM

DOOM

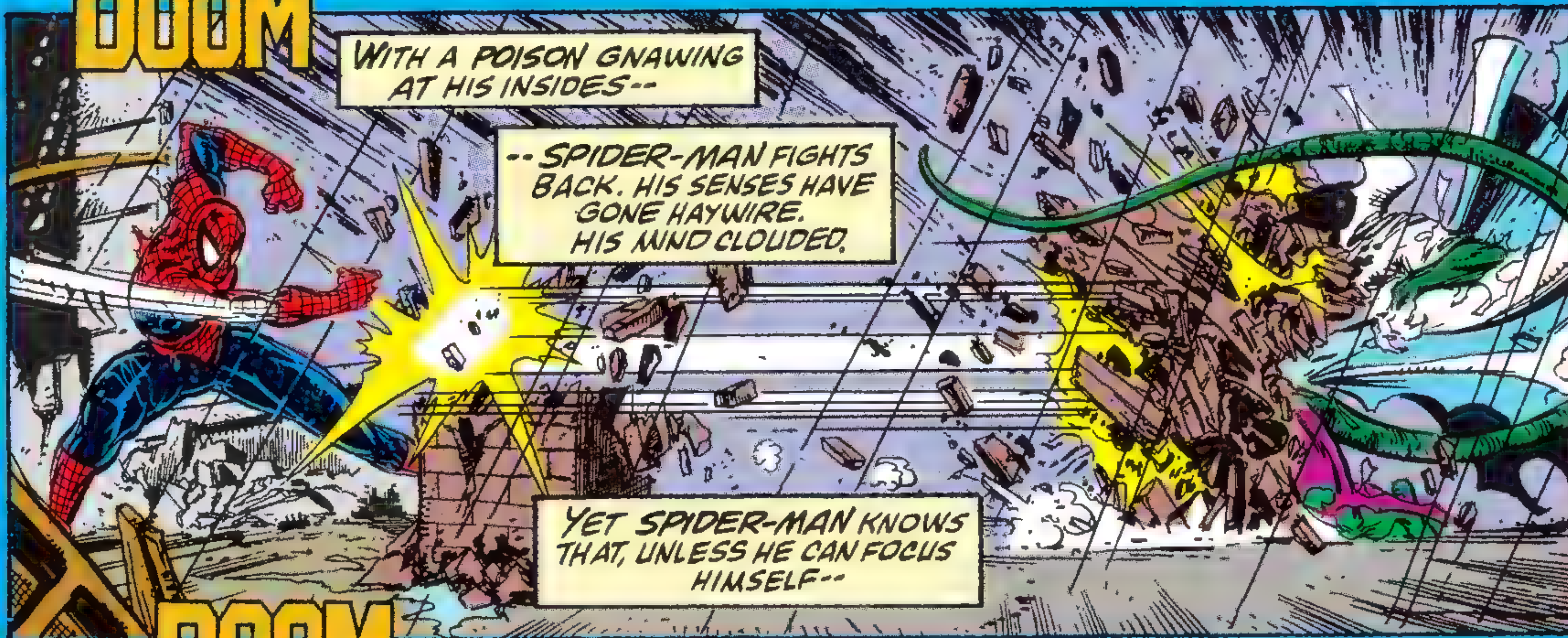
DOOM



THE LIZARD HAS BEEN
ON A KILLING SPREE. THE
BODY COUNT IS AT SIX.

FOR NOW.

DOOM



WITH A POISON GNAWING
AT HIS INSIDES--

-- SPIDER-MAN FIGHTS
BACK. HIS SENSES HAVE
GONE HAYWIRE.
HIS MIND CLOUDED.

YET SPIDER-MAN KNOWS
THAT, UNLESS HE CAN FOCUS
HIMSELF--

DOOM

--THIS
MONSTROSITY,
THAT WAS
ONCE
DR. CURT
CONNORS,
WILL NOT
HESITATE--



--TO KILL
HIM!



ELSEWHERE
IN THE CITY.

EASY, MY
PET--

-- LET US
FEAST
ON THE
MOMENT.

FOR WE DO
NOT WANT TO
MAKE THIS
TOO EASY.



HE WILL
BE MADE AN
EXAMPLE
TO THE
WORLD.

BUT FIRST, HE
MUST SUFFER.

THE
SPIDER--

--MUST
SUFFER

DOOM DOOM DOOM

DO

D

DOO

DOOM

UNG!

FOCUS.

I'VE GOT
TO FOCUS.

COME ON, PETER--
CONCENTRATE.

GOT TO GET--
HIM--OFF--
ME--

DOOM

NEED--TO--
BUY--TIME.

THE DOC'S TRANSFORMATION--
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIS BLOOD-
LUST SO CONSUMING.

THERE!

DOOM

HAVE TO GET--
AWAY--

WHY?

THERE DOESN'T-- SEEM-- TO BE ANY--
HUMANITY-- LEFT-- IN-- HIM.

NOT HIM
SPIDER-MAN--
IT!

HE HASN'T SAID
ONE WORD.

WHY?

DOOM

DOC! TALK TO
ME! WHAT'S
HAPPENING?!

DOOM

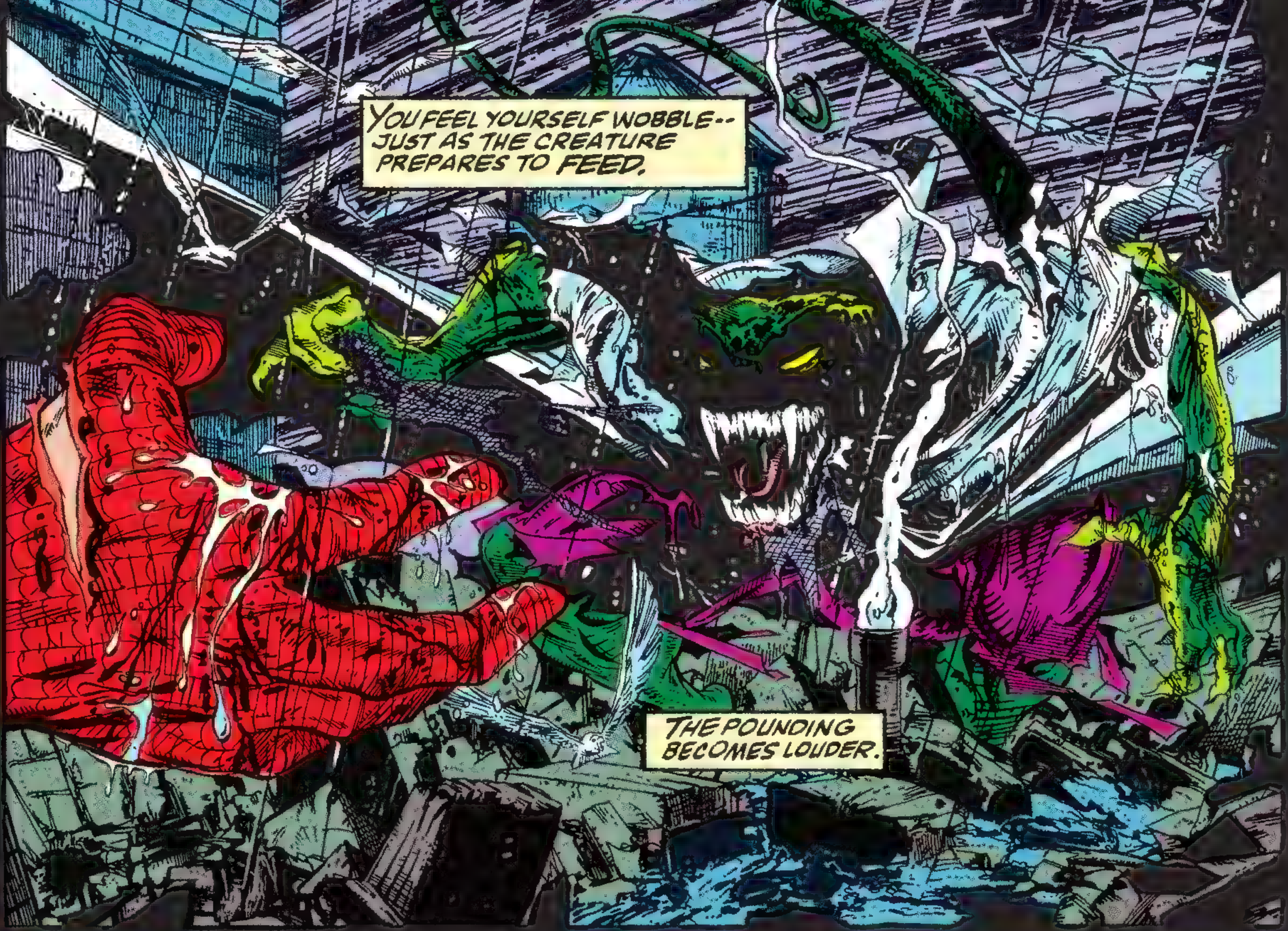
DOOM

please--
tell me--
what's--
happening--

SILENCE
IS YOUR ONLY
ANSWER.

THE PAIN, THE POISON,
THE RELENTLESS
POUNDING IN YOUR
HEAD-- HAVE TAKEN
THEIR TOLL.

DOOM



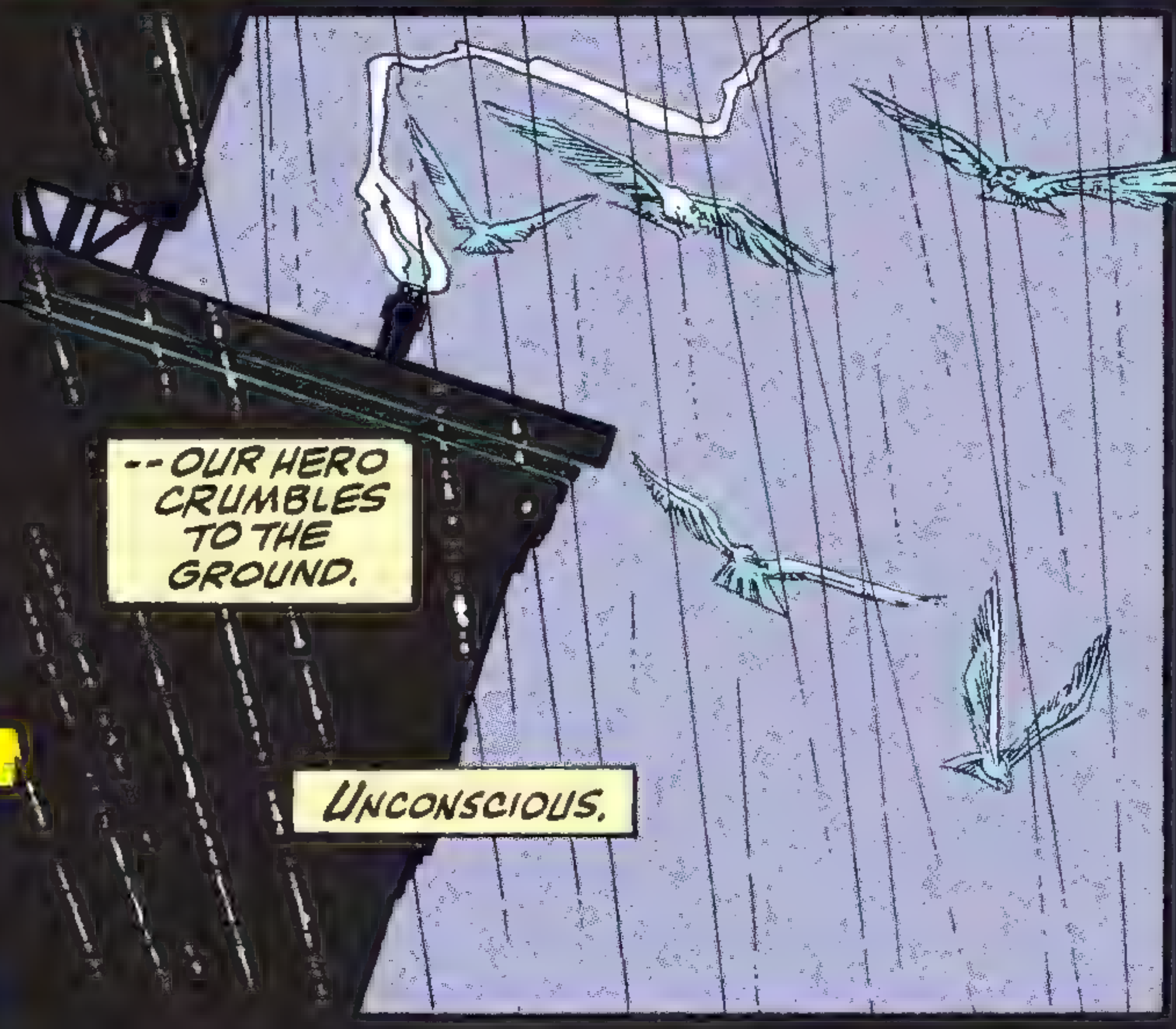
YOU FEEL YOURSELF WOBBLE--
JUST AS THE CREATURE
PREPARES TO FEED.

THE POUNDING
BECOMES LOUDER.



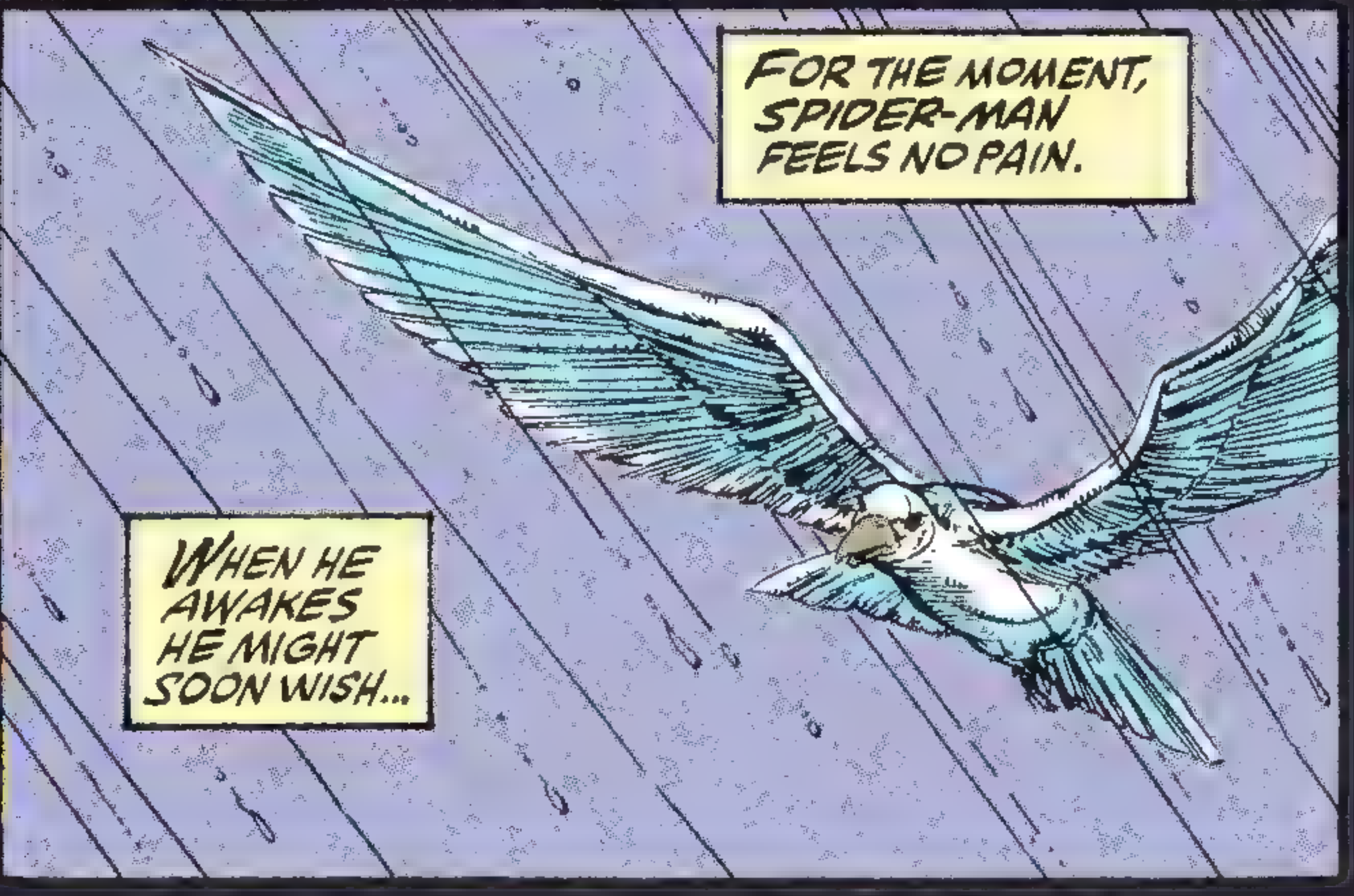
AND LOUDER.

AND LOUDER.



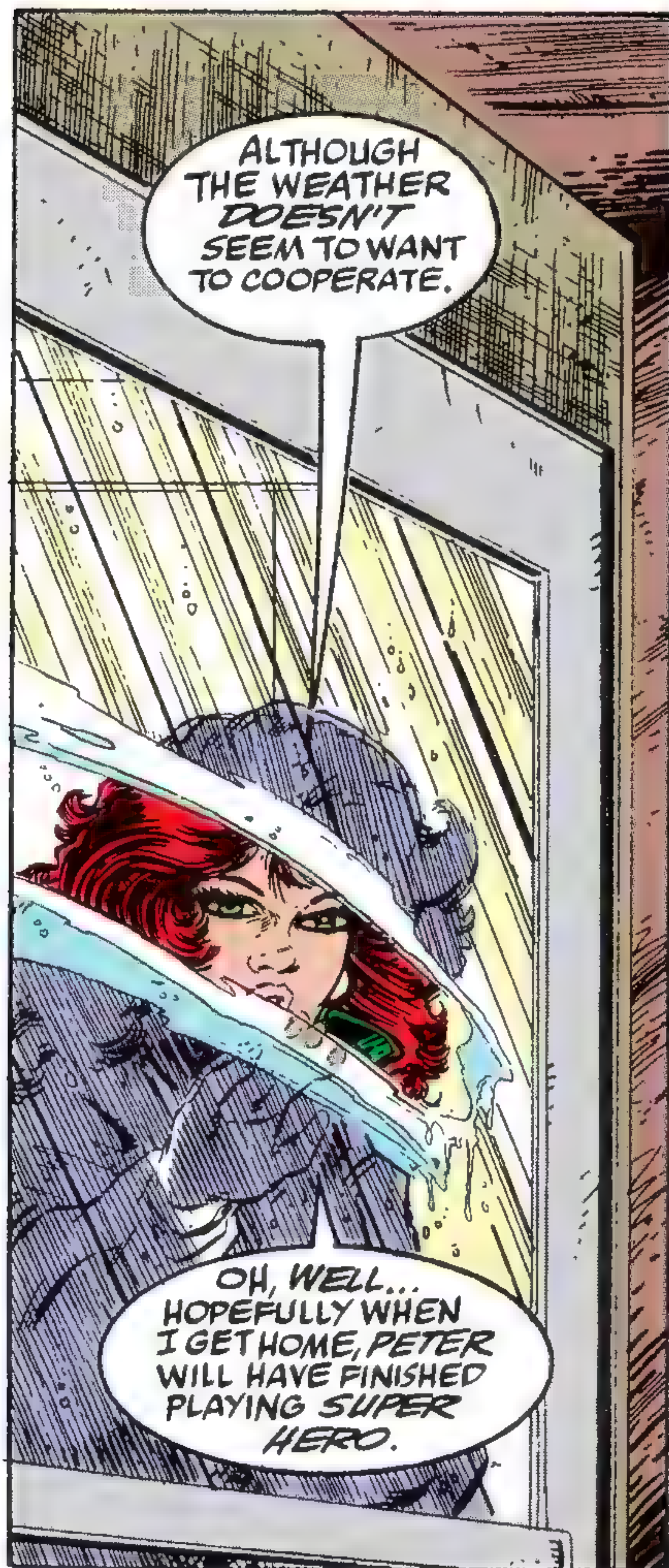
-- OUR HERO
CRUMBLES
TO THE
GROUND.

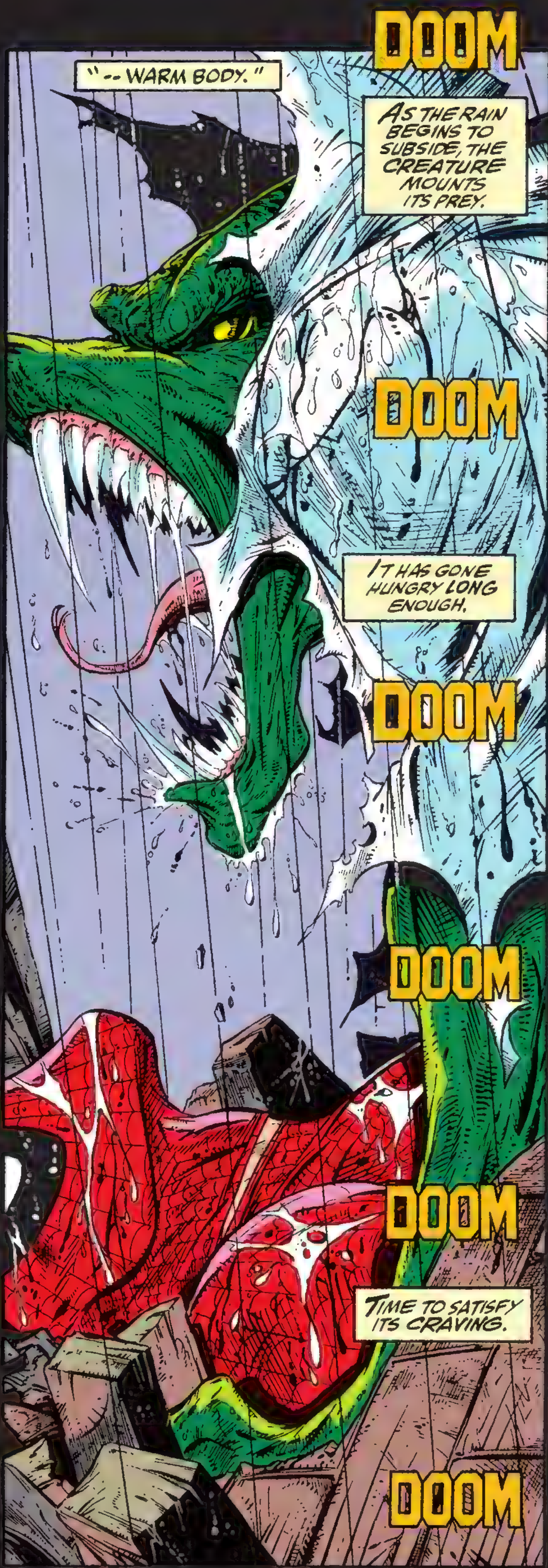
UNCONSCIOUS.



FOR THE MOMENT,
SPIDER-MAN
FEELS NO PAIN.

WHEN HE
AWAKES
HE MIGHT
SOON WISH...





"-- WARM BODY."

AS THE RAIN
BEGINS TO
SUBSIDE, THE
CREATURE
MOUNTS
ITS PREY.

DOOM

IT HAS GONE
HUNGRY LONG
ENOUGH.

DOOM

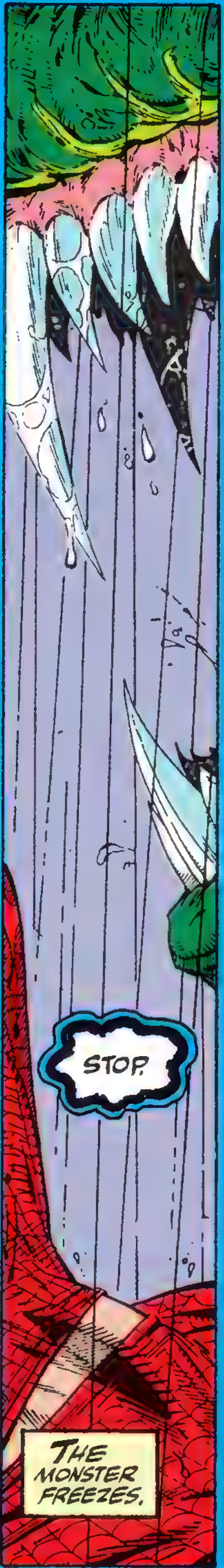
DOOM

DOOM

TIME TO SATISFY
ITS CRAVING.

DOOM

LIKE SOME
BLOOD-CRAZED
VAMPIRE,
THE LIZARD
MEANS TO RIP
OUT THE
SPIDER'S
JUGULAR.



STOP

THE
MONSTER
FREEZES.

EVIL BLOWS IN
THE DARKENED
HALLS.

ANCIENT SPIRITS
LEND THEIR SOULS
TO THE UNHOLY
RITUAL. THE
POWER BUILDS.

THE MAGIC
INCREASES.

UNNATURAL FORCES
FEEDING UPON ITS
DESIRE FOR
ANOTHER VICTIM.

THE
SPIDER
MUST
SUFFER.

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

SUFFER HE WILL.

THE CREATURE LIFTS
THE BROKEN HERO TO
THE HEAVENS ABOVE.

THE GODS GIVE
NO REPLY.

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

FALLING TO
EARTH--

--WITH
INCREASING
SPEED.

DOOM

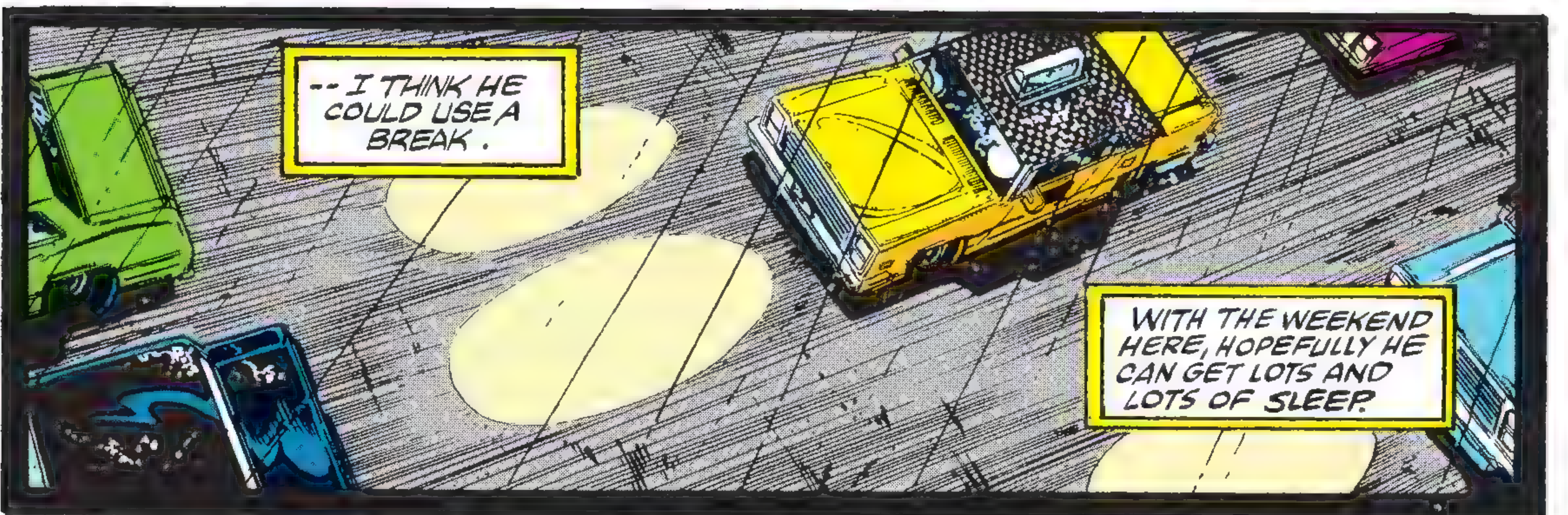
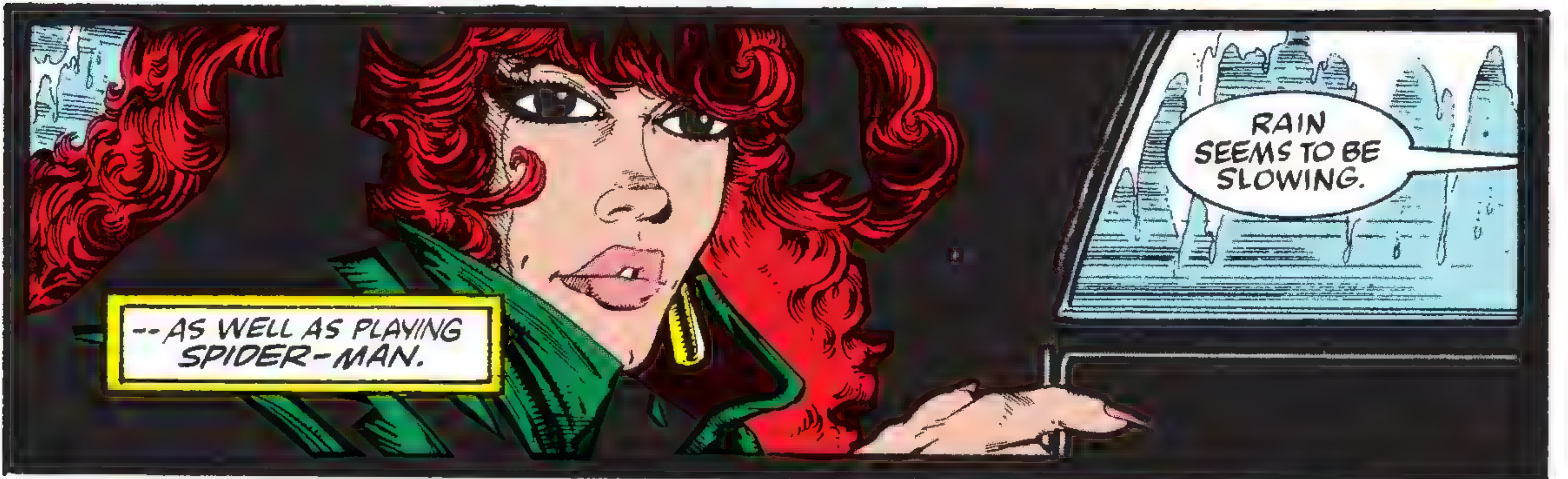
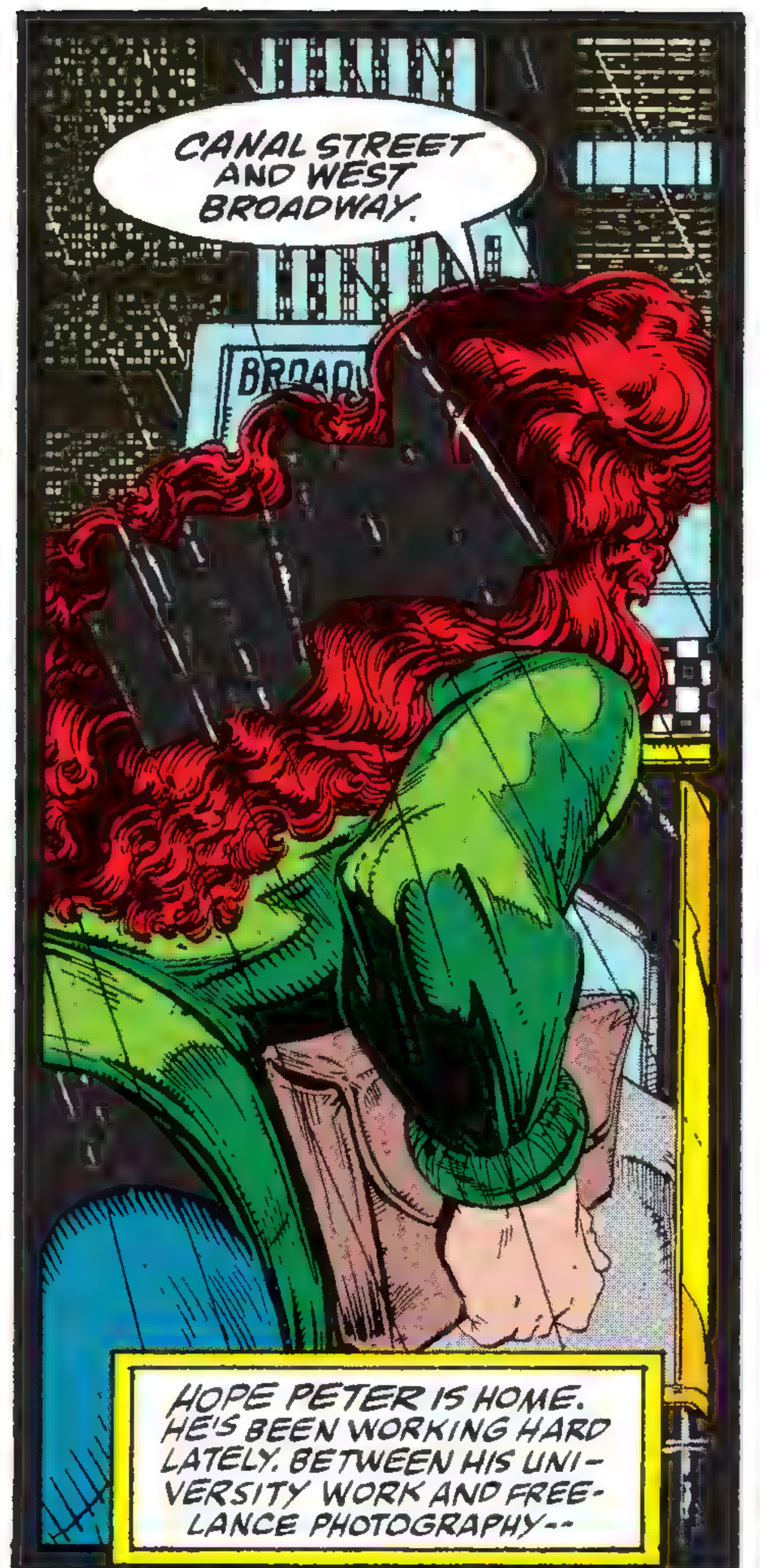
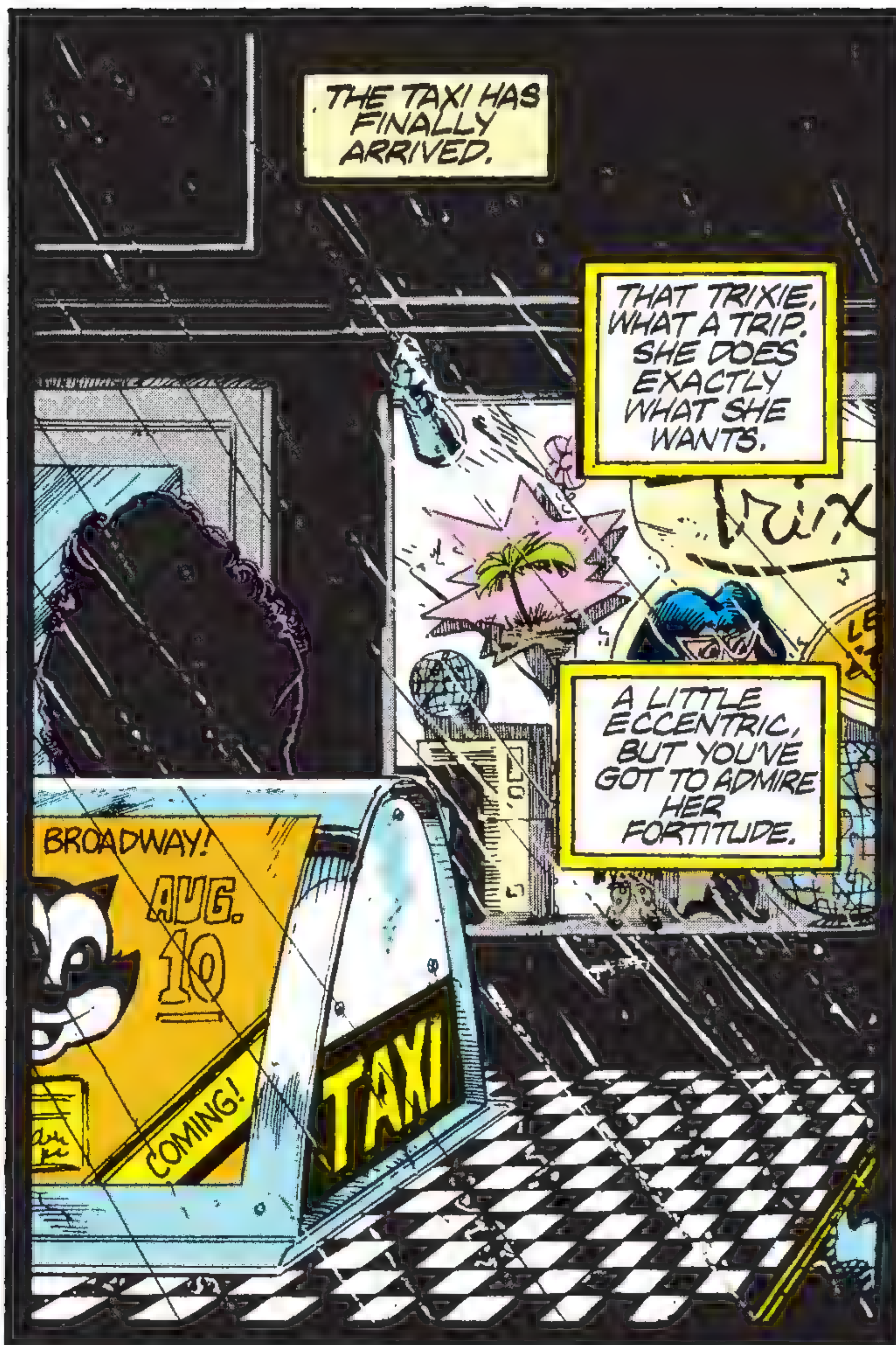
DOOM

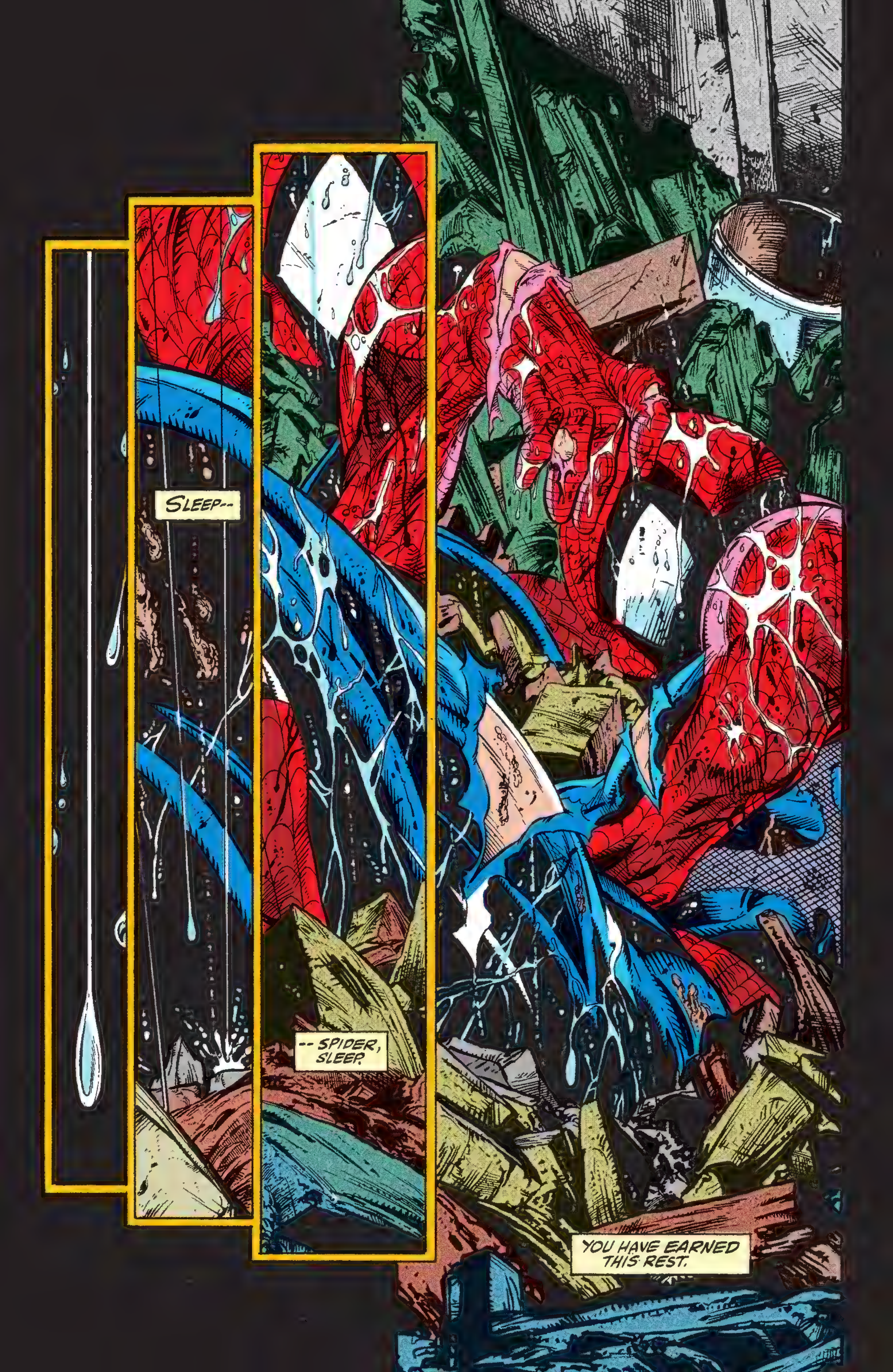
DOOM

DOOM

ONLY THE DISCARDED GARBAGE,
MADE FOR MAN'S USE, SAVES
SPIDER-MAN FROM DEATH.

THE SPIDER IS SUFFERING.



A vertical comic book panel showing Spider-Man lying in a pile of rubble. He is wearing his red and blue suit, which is torn and stained with blood. His eyes are closed, and he appears to be unconscious. The rubble consists of broken wooden planks, bricks, and debris. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a destroyed building or a night scene. The panel is framed by a yellow border.

SLEEP--

-- SPIDER,
SLEEP.

YOU HAVE EARNED
THIS REST.

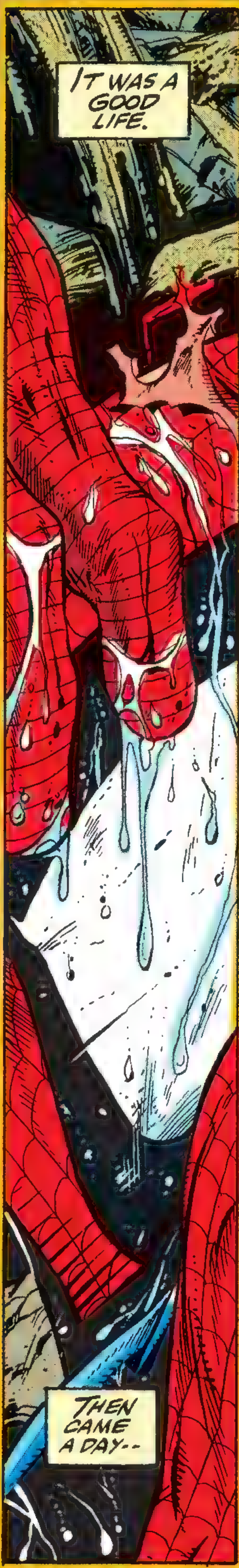
A large, vertical comic book panel showing Spider-Man in his red and blue suit, crouched amidst a massive pile of rubble and debris. The scene is chaotic, with various pieces of wood, metal, and other debris scattered around him. The background shows a cityscape with tall buildings under a blue sky.

NESTLED IN
YOUR BED OF
GARBAGE--

--LET YOUR
MIND DRIFT.

BACK TO A
SIMPLER
TIME.

A TIME
WHEN YOU
HAD NO
WORRIES.

A vertical comic book panel showing a close-up of Spider-Man's face. He is looking down with a somber expression, and his red mask is visible. He is surrounded by debris and rubble, with some water or liquid dripping from his face.

IT WAS A
GOOD
LIFE.

THEN
CAME
A DAY--

A vertical comic book panel showing a close-up of Spider-Man's face. He is looking down with a somber expression, and his red mask is visible. He is surrounded by debris and rubble, with some water or liquid dripping from his face.

--WHEN
YOU
MET--

--THE
SPIDER.

IT WAS A DAY
LIKE ANY OTHER.
THE SUN WAS
SHINING.
SPRING
WAS IN THE
AIR.

YOUR HIGH
SCHOOL
CLASS WAS
ATTENDING
A SCIENCE
FAIR.

OH, HOW
YOU
LOVED
SCIENCE.

WHILE YOU WERE BUSY
ADMIRING THE TECHNOLOGY--
ALONG CAME THE SPIDER.

IT
GLOWED.

IT ALSO BIT YOU AND SOMEHOW
TRANSFORMED YOUR BODY INTO
A HUMAN SPIDER.

YOU DONNED
A COSTUME--

IN ONE OF
THE HALLS
YOU WERE
SHOWN THE
LATEST IN
RADIOACTIVITY.

DAILY BUGLE
THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER
WHO IS THE
SPIDER-MAN?

--AND MADE THE
ROUNDS WITH THE
MEDIA.

THEY DUBBED YOU
'SPIDER-MAN'.

THEN CAME THAT DAY.
YOU LET A TWO-BIT CROOK
GET BY YOU WHEN YOU HAD
THE CHANCE TO STOP HIM.

NOT YOUR
PROBLEM.

WRONG!

A WEEK LATER,
JUST AS YOU REACH
HOME, YOU SEE
THE CLUSTER OF
POLICE AT YOUR
DOORSTEP.



THEY TELL YOU THAT ONE OF
THE KINDEST AND GENTLEST
PERSONS ON EARTH-- WHO
ALSO RAISED YOU AS A CHILD--
HAD BEEN KILLED.

YOUR UNCLE BEN
WAS MURDERED.

YOU CHECK ON YOUR AUNT
MAY, MAKE SURE SHE'S
OKAY--

--THEN YOU
FLY INTO A
BLIND
RAGE.



YOU BECAME
A HERO.

YOU BECAME
A MAN.

CLIMBING
FROM THE
SHADOWS--



-- YOU COME FACE-
TO FACE WITH A
KILLER. THE SAME
TWO-BIT CROOK
YOU IGNORED
LAST WEEK.

IN THAT
MOMENT
YOU GREW
UP.

YOU GO TO WHERE
THE KILLER IS--
A WAREHOUSE.

A SPIDER-MAN!



SOMEWHERE IN
THE DARKNESS--



DOOM DOOM

--REALITY
IS BEING
DISTORTED.



NOW IS THE
TIME.

COME TO
ME, MY
PET.



DOOM DOOM

COME!

LIKE SOME DEMONIC
CANINE, THE CREATURE
HEEDS ITS MASTER.

THOUGH IT
THIRSTS FOR
BLOOD, THE
LIZARD IS
COMPELLED
TO OBEY.
SUCH IS THE
STRENGTH
OF EVIL
WITH A
PURPOSE.

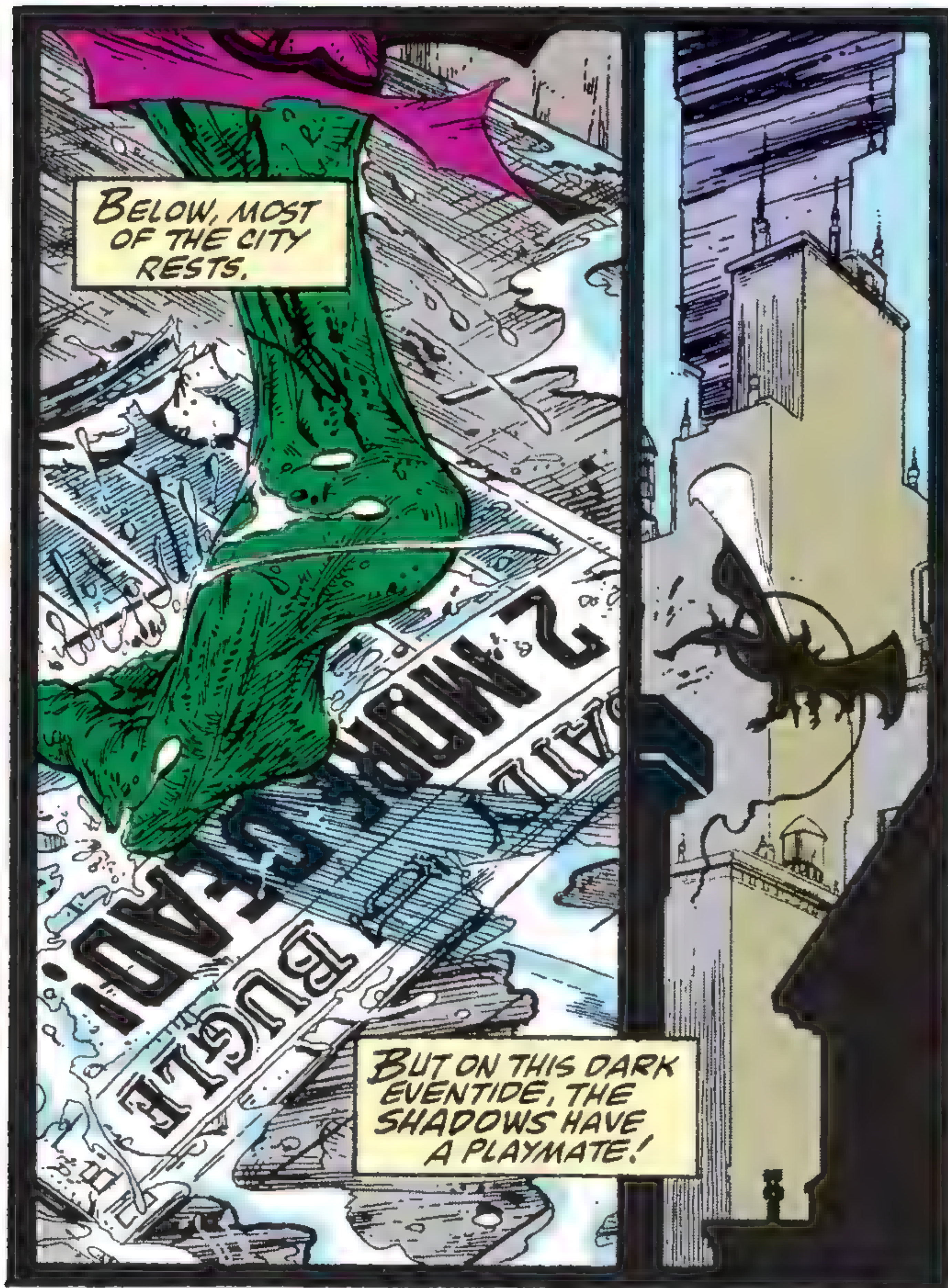
DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM



BELOW, MOST
OF THE CITY
RESTS.

BUT ON THIS DARK
EVENING, THE
SHADOWS HAVE
A PLAYMATE!



BELOW.

MARY JANE IS
LOOKING FORWARD
TO SEEING
HER HUSBAND.

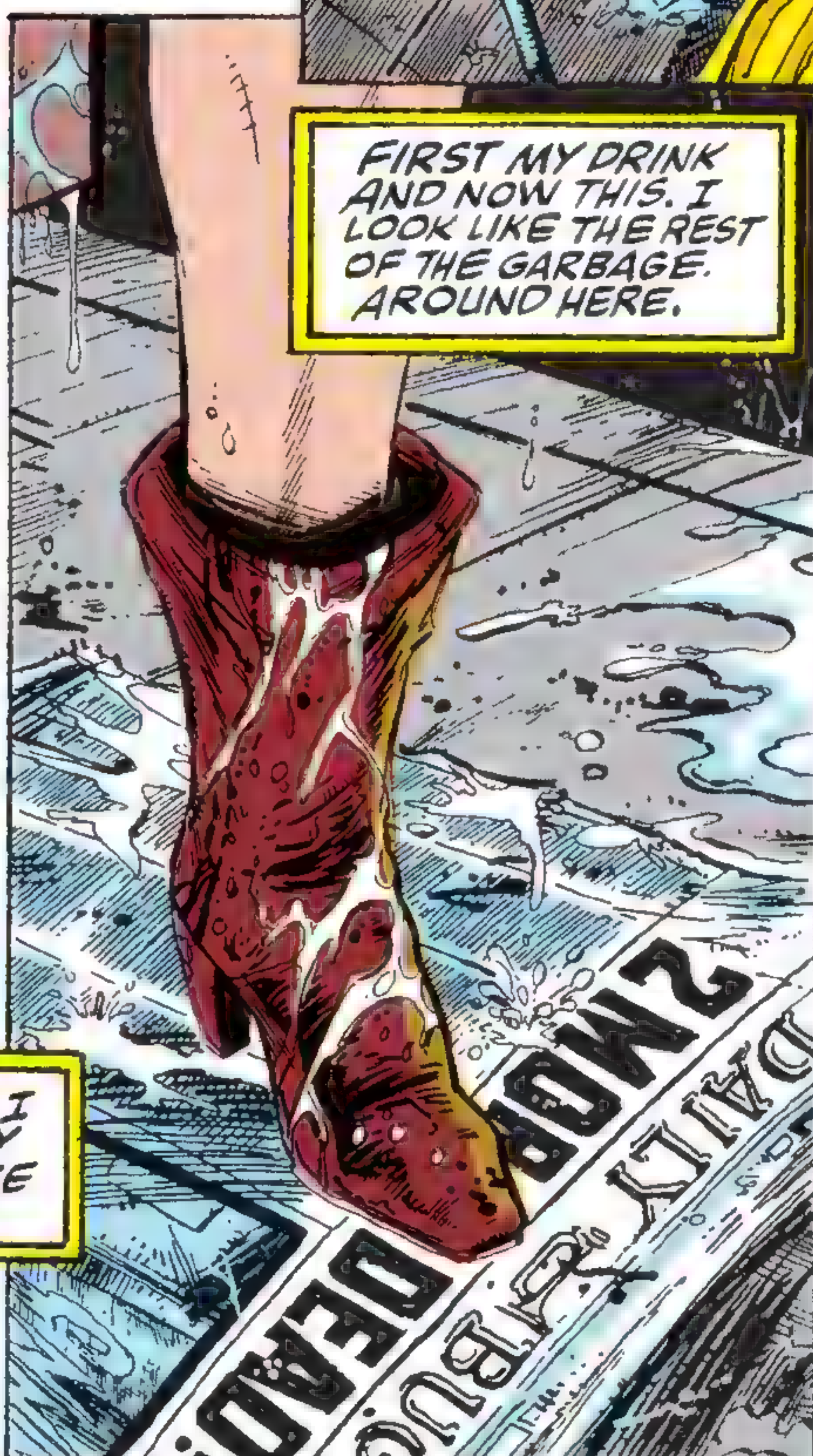
-- AND
KEEP THE
CHANGE.



HEY!

IDIOT!

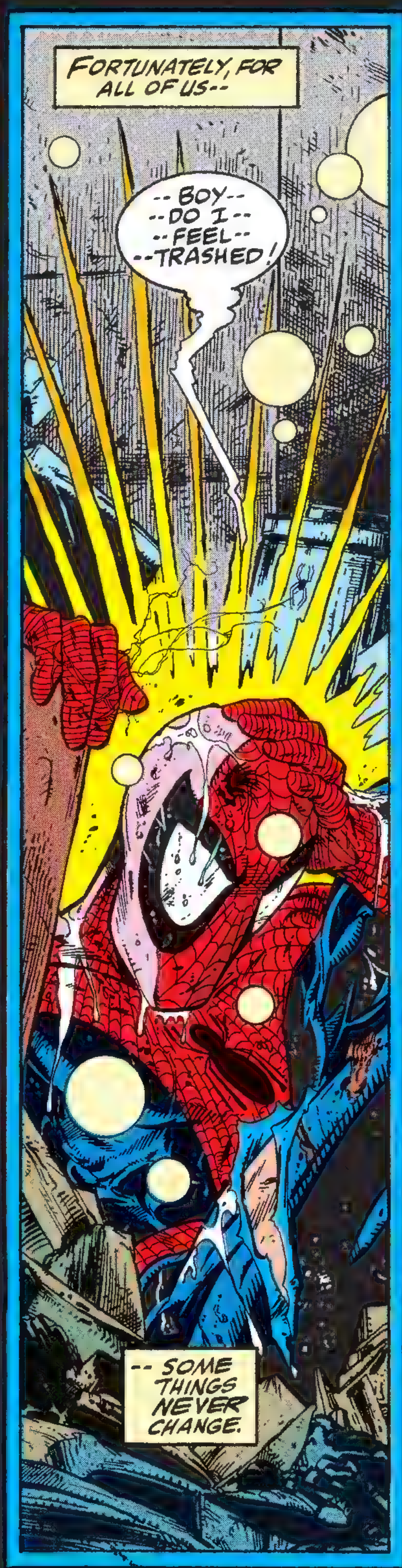
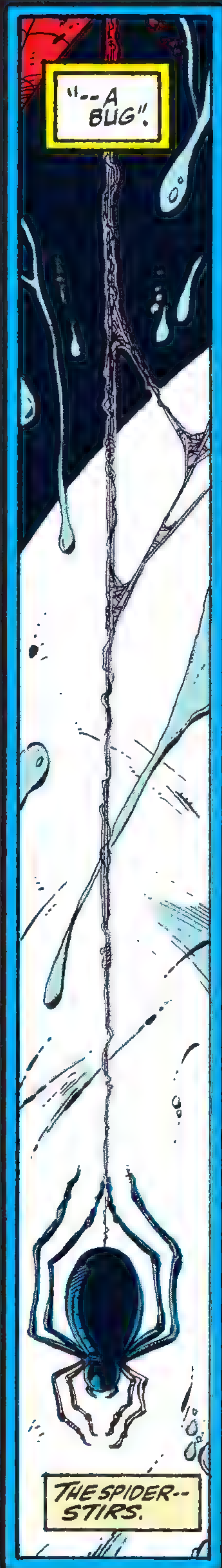
WHY DO I
EVEN TRY
WITH THOSE
GUYS?

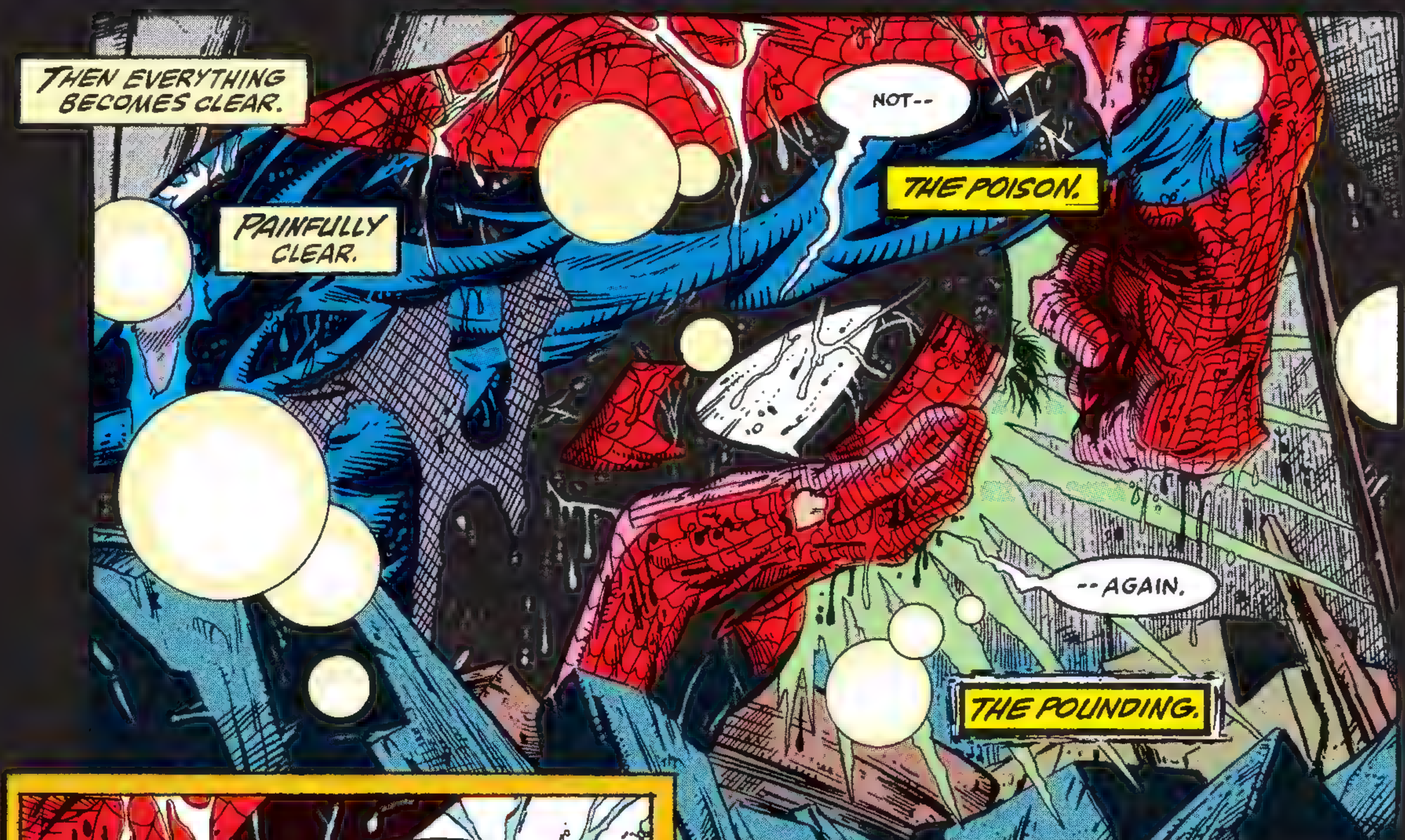


FIRST MY DRINK
AND NOW THIS. I
LOOK LIKE THE REST
OF THE GARBAGE.
AROUND HERE.

SOMETIMES
MEN CAN
REALLY BE--







THEN EVERYTHING
BECOMES CLEAR.

PAINFULLY
CLEAR.

NOT--

THE POISON.

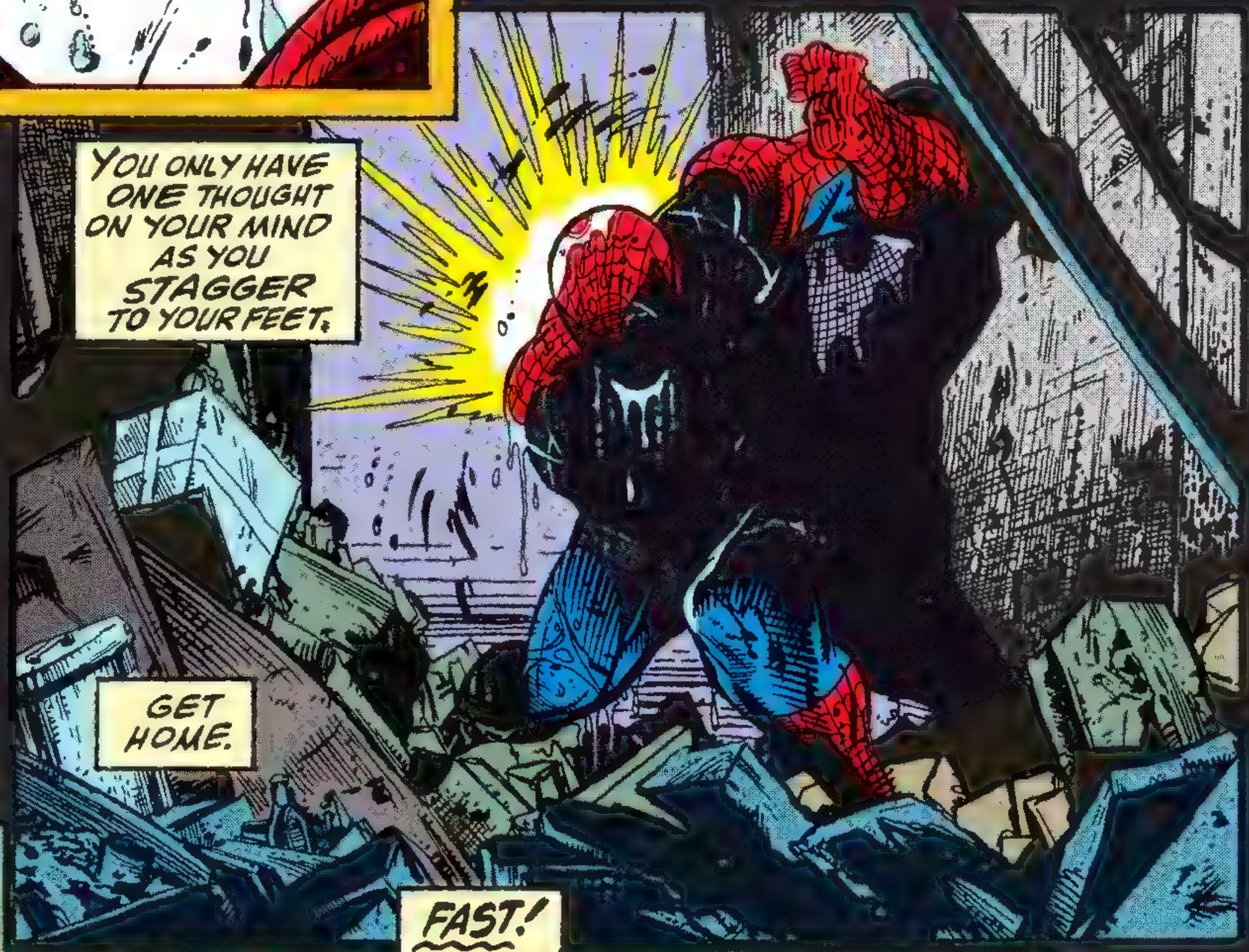
-- AGAIN.

THE POUNDING.



-- PLEASE --

THE AGONY.




YOU ONLY HAVE
ONE THOUGHT
ON YOUR MIND
AS YOU
STAGGER
TO YOUR FEET.

GET
HOME.

FAST!



STAY A
WHILE
LONGER,
SPIDER-MAN--



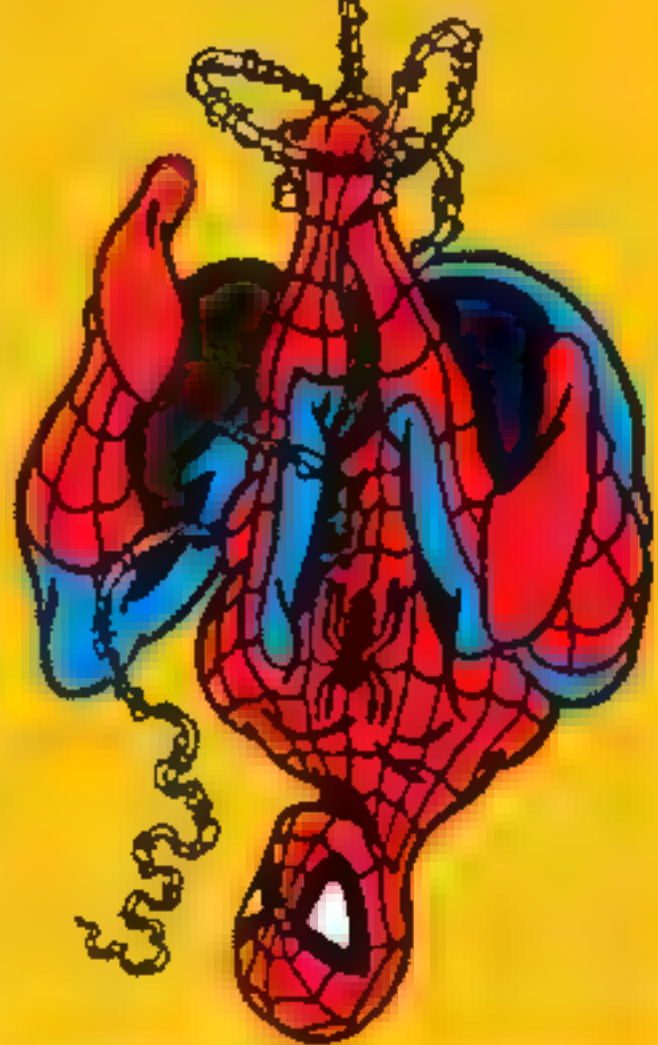
-- FOR THE NIGHT
HAS JUST
BEGUN.

SUDDENLY, YOUR
SANITY IS IN
QUESTION.

Part 4

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CODE
AUTHORITY

**THE DEATH OF THE
ARACHKNIGHT?!**


SPIDER-MAN

"TORMENT"
PART FOUR OF FIVE

**NO MATTER HOW
MANY TIMES
YOU
KILL HIM—
THE
LIZARD
LIVES!**



McFARLANE



DEAD.

YOU THOUGHT
HE WAS DEAD.

ASSUMED,
AND ABUSED
YOUR SECRET
IDENTITY.

THE HUNTER
HAD KILLED
HIMSELF.
COMMITTED
SUICIDE.

-- OR THE
FEVER
SEEMINGLY
BURNING
YOU ALIVE.

HE CAN'T
BE BACK
FROM THE
GRAVE!

PUT A GUN
TO HIS
HEAD.

NOW HE
WAS
BACK.

HE CAN BEAT
ANY ODDS, THE
SICKLY
SMIRK
TELLS US.

HE HAD
BURIED
YOU ALIVE
FOR TWO
WEEKS.

YOUR MIND
SAYS THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE.

MAYBE IT'S
THE POISON
RAGING
THROUGH
YOUR BODY--

BUT YOUR
MIND SAYS
SOMETHING
IS WRONG.

AGAINST
DEATH--

AGAINST
SPIDER-MAN.

DOOM

NO MATTER
WHAT,
HE WILL
ALWAYS--

--RISE ABOVE IT ALL!

EVEN IF HE STILL LOOKS DEAD.

MY HUNT IS OVER.
I HAVE FOUND MY
FRIEND, THE SPIDER.

KRAVEN ?!

AND THE
MONSTROSITY
CALLED THE
LIZARD.

FOR THE HUNDREDTH
TIME YOU TRY AND DENY
IT. THIS ISN'T HAPPENING--

-- WELL, TONIGHT
SPIDER-MAN
WHETHER YOU
PLANNED IT OR
NOT, YOU HAVE
A DATE WITH A
DEAD MAN. '

NO!

PRESENTS:

T E R R I F I C

PART 4
ARTIST-
WRITER
COLORIST
TODD
McFARLANE

LETTERS
RICK PARKER
EDITOR
JIM SALICRUP
EDITOR
IN CHIEF
TOM DETALSO

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

YOU'RE NOT
PREPARED FOR
THIS. AT LEAST,
NOT NOW.

DOOM

YOU CAN'T
BREATHE.

CAN'T
SEE.

THAT
NAME WILL
NOT ALLOW
YOU TO
GIVE UP.

LITTLE
BY
LITTLE.

CLOSER.

SO YOU
FIGHT.

THE WEIGHT
OF THE
DARKNESS
BECOMES
TOO
HEAVY.

EVER
CLOSER.

INCHING
UPWARD.

AS YOU SPRAWL
ABOUT IN THE TIDE
OF GARBAGE--

--YOUR SANITY
BEGINS TO
DESERT YOU.

BLACKNESS ENVELOPES
YOUR MIND, PULLING AT
THE VERY FIBERS OF
CONSCIOUSNESS.

YOU ARE
BEING
BURIED
AGAIN.

MARY
JANE.

DOOM

YOU SWEAR
YOU CAN
TASTE
THE AIR
OUTSIDE.

VICTORY
IS YOURS
ONCE
AGAIN!

HERE LIES

HERE LIES
SPIDER-MAN

SLAIN BY

THE HUNTER

THEN IT
BEGINS
TO GIVE
WAY.

THE
FOOL.

DOOM

DOOM

LOOK AT HIM
FLAIL AT SOME
UNSEEN
GHOSTS.

BUT EVEN HEROES
HAVE THEIR LIMITS.
TONIGHT SPIDER-MAN
HAS MET HIS.

THE SPIDER
DOES NOT
MOVE.

DOOM DOOM

MERELY SOME INSANE
ENEMY WITH AN
UNKNOWN PLAN.

IN THAT
MOMENT--

ILLUSIONS,
--CREATED
WITH THE
HELP OF
ANCIENT
INCANTATIONS--
GIVE WAY TO
REALITY.

--THE
SPELL
IS
BROKEN.

FOR THIS IS
NO DEAD MAN
THAT TORTURES
OUR HERO.

PERFECT.

DOOM

EVERYTHING HAS
TURNED OUT PERFECT.

SHE
CACKLES
INTO THE
NIGHT.

SOMEONE IS
CONTROLLING IT.

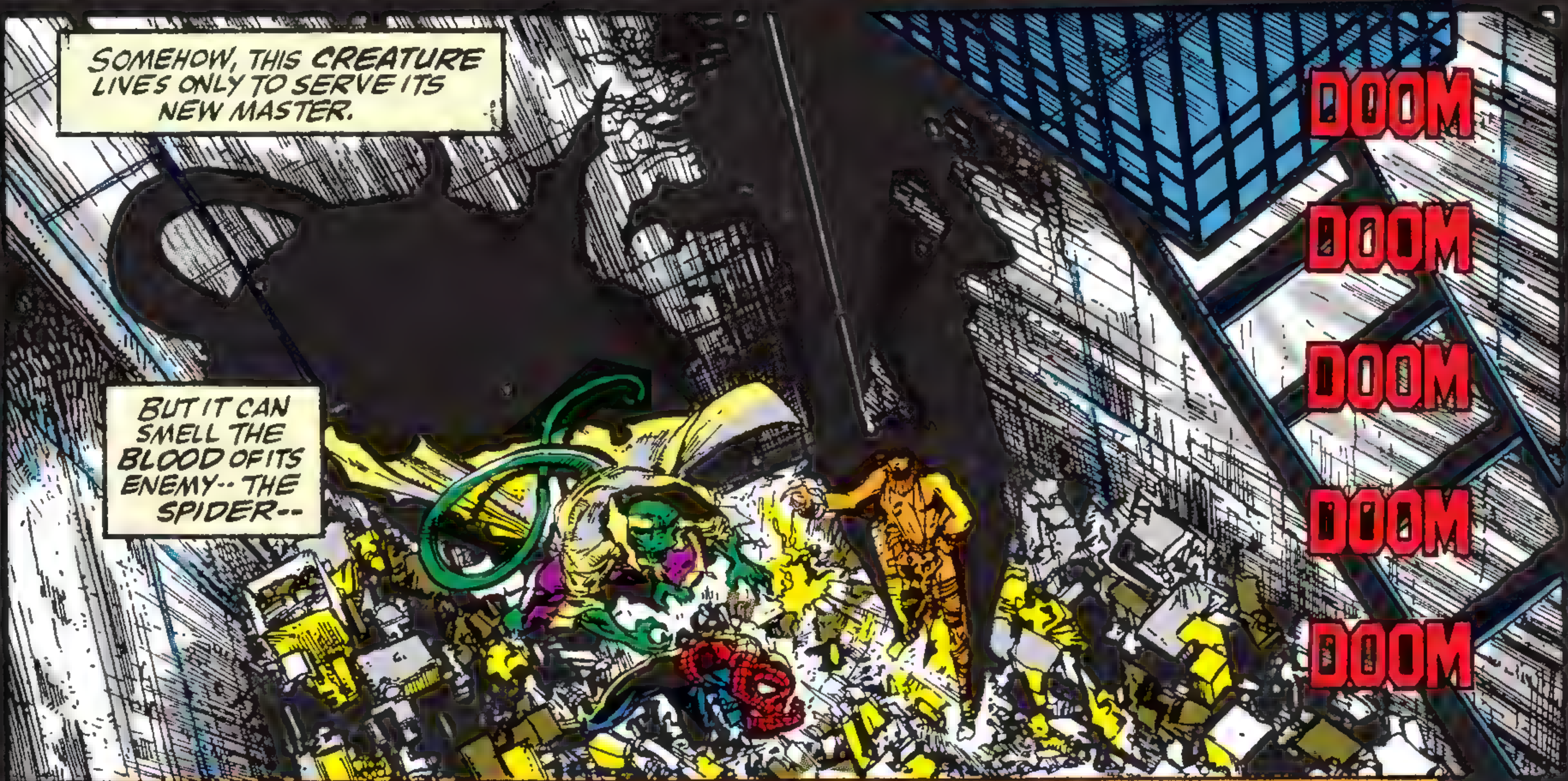
LET US GO.

AT HER
SIDE IS THE
TRANSFORMED
FIGURE OF
DR. CURT
CONNORS.--

WITH AN UNSPOKEN COMMAND,
THE LIZARD TURNS. INSTINCTS,
WANTING TO LEAP FORWARD AND
TEAR APART THE HERO, ARE HELD
IN CHECK.

--NOW KNOWN AS
THE LIZARD!

SINCE ITS REAPPEARANCE
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AGO,
THE USUALLY TALKATIVE
CREATURE HAS NOT
UTTERED ONE
SYLLABLE.



SOMEHOW, THIS CREATURE
LIVES ONLY TO SERVE ITS
NEW MASTER.

BUT IT CAN
SMELL THE
BLOOD OF ITS
ENEMY-- THE
SPIDER--

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

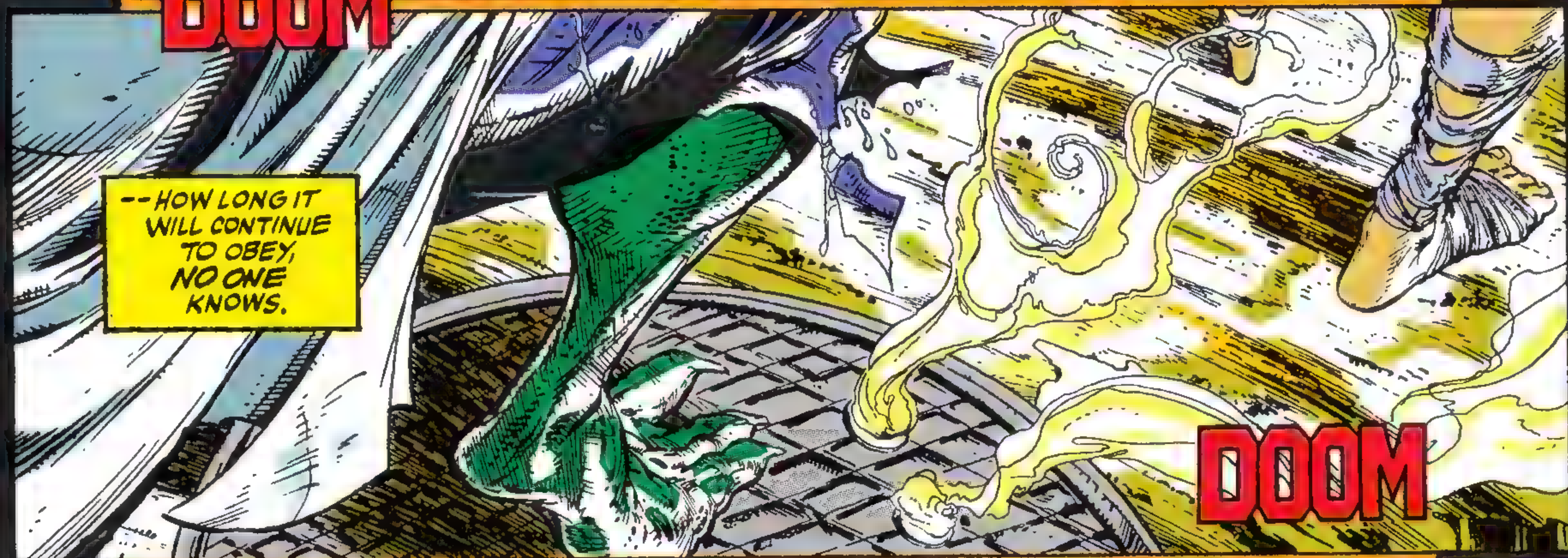
DOOM

DOOM



NOW!

DOOM



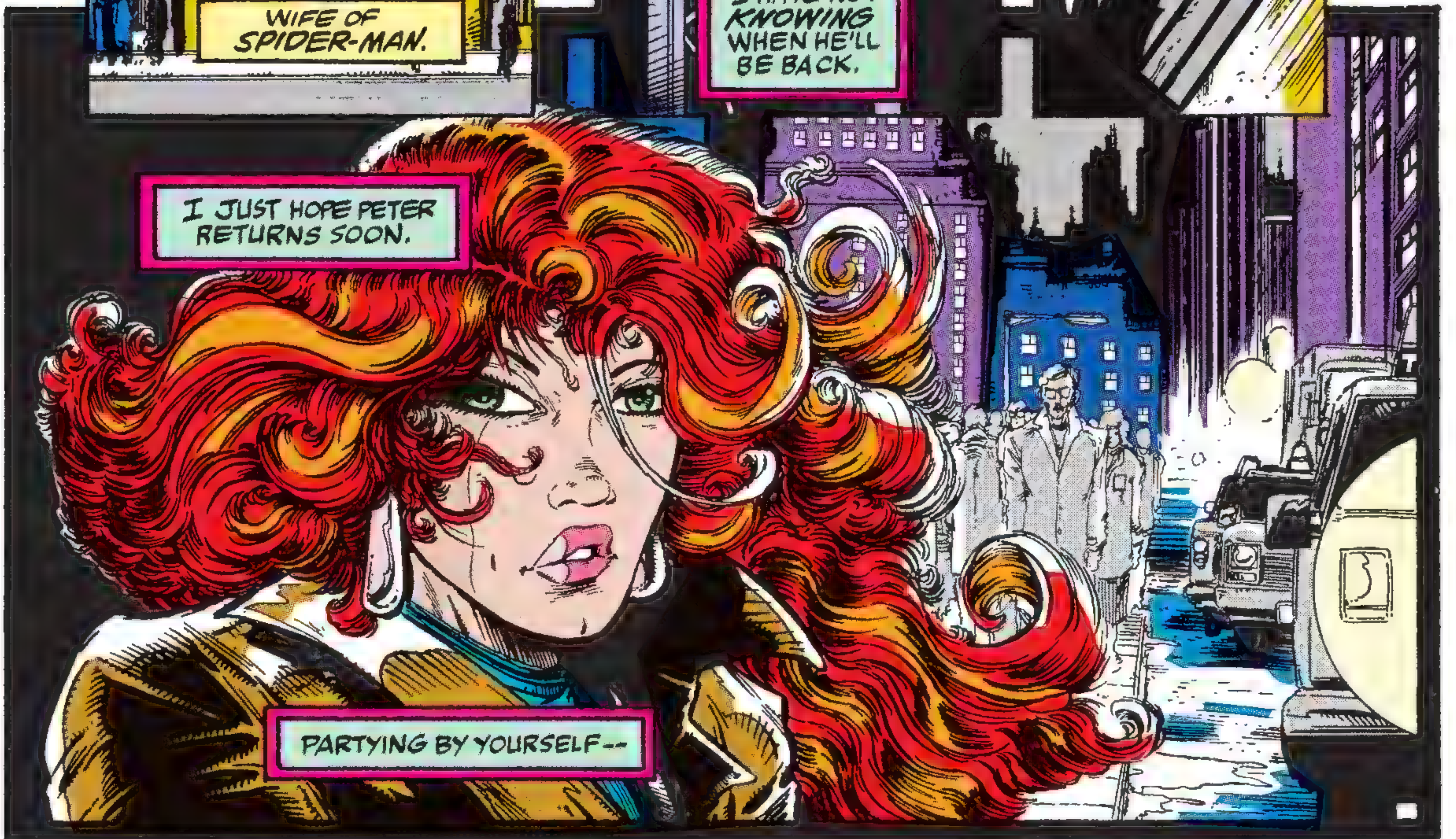
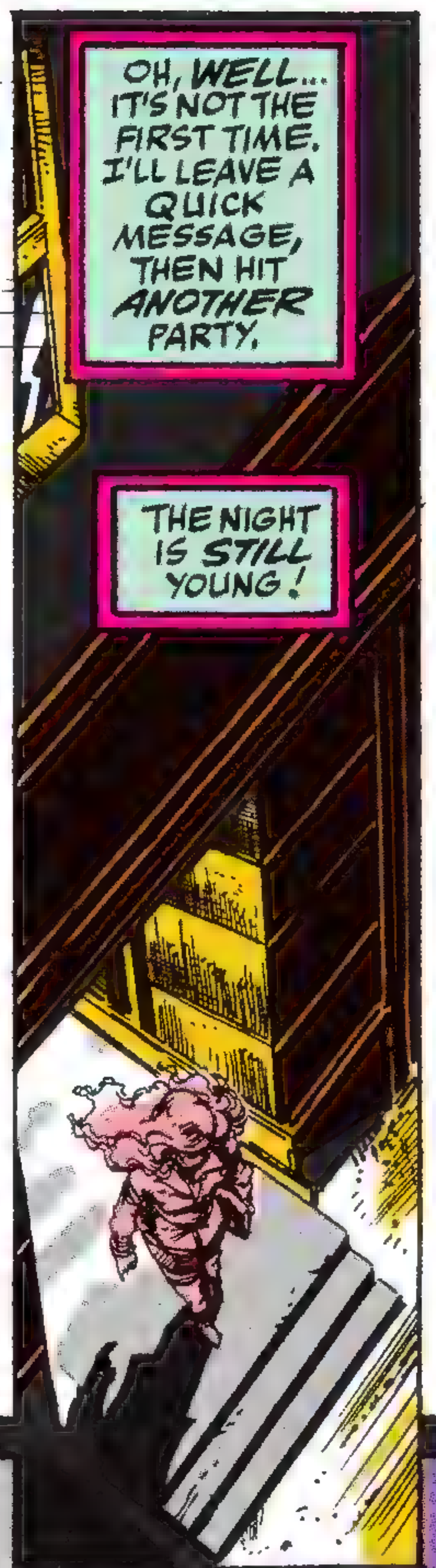
--HOW LONG IT
WILL CONTINUE
TO OBEY,
NO ONE
KNOWS.

DOOM



DOOM

NEITHER
DOES SHE!



WHA--?!

WHERE

AM

I?

NEW YORK.

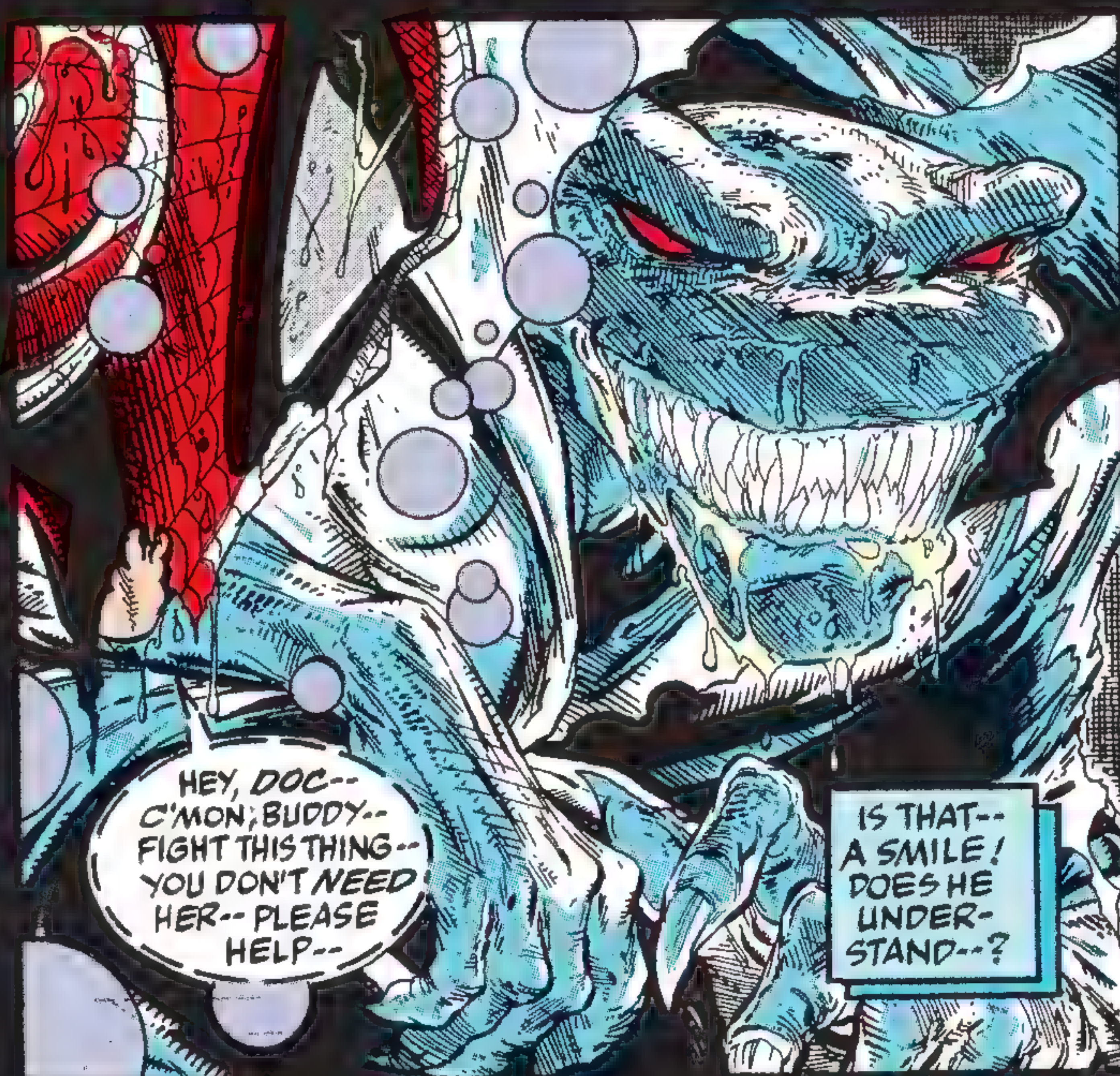
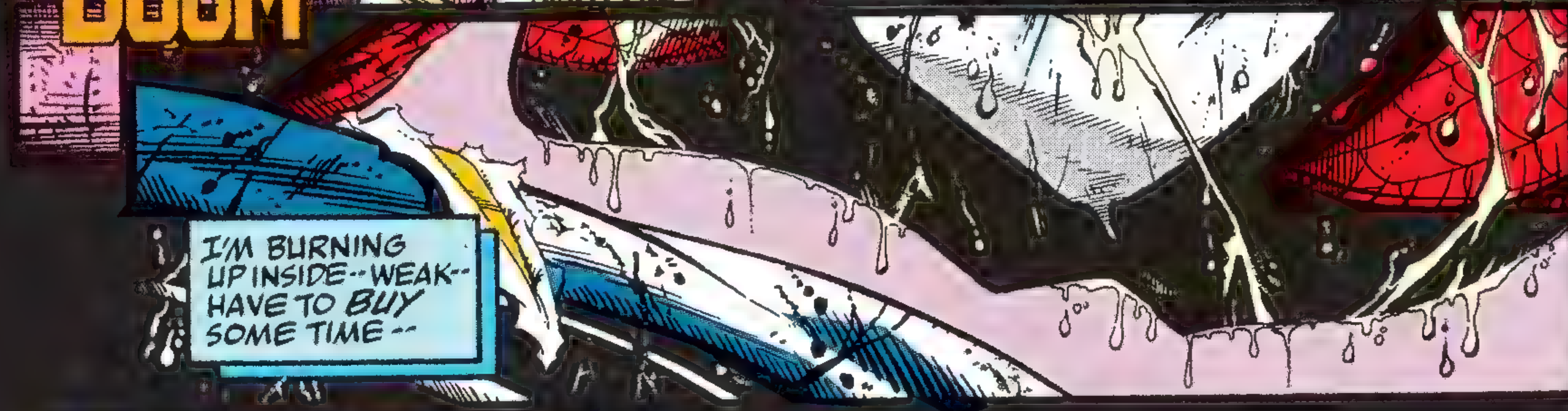
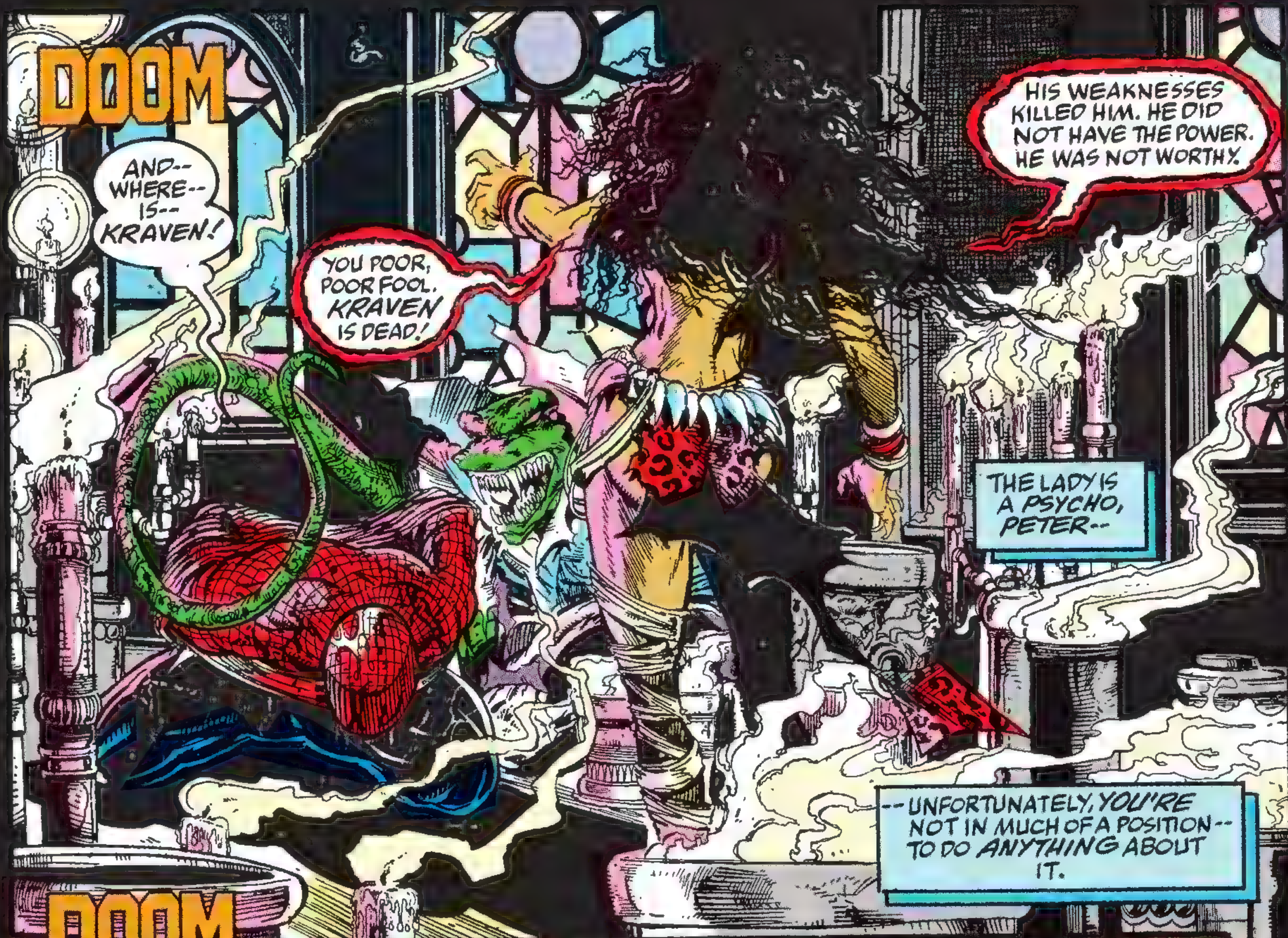
UPPER EAST SIDE.

AND FOR THE
MILLIONTH
TIME--WHAT'S
GOING ON?!

AWAKE ALREADY? YOUR
PERSISTENCE IS
ADMIRABLE.

--WHO--
--ARE--
--YOU--

THERE'S SOME-
THING FAMILIAR
ABOUT HER--
CAN'T PINPOINT.



DOOM
DOOM

WRONG!!

STOP!

THE
CREATURE
FREEZES.

DOOM

SOON, MY
PET, YOU
WILL FEAST.

SHE APPROACHES
A BASIN OF WARM,
WET, SHIMMERING
BLOOD.


THE LIQUID POTION CONTAINS TWO
ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS--
LIZARDS AND SPIDERS.

DOOM

DEFYING THE
GODS--
SHE LAUGHS!

CRIMSON GORE SPURTS IN
SMOOTH ARCS ACROSS THE
STILL BLACKNESS OF THE
ANCIENT SANCTUARY.

DOOM
DOOM




POWER
COURSES
THROUGH
THE RED
LIQUID.



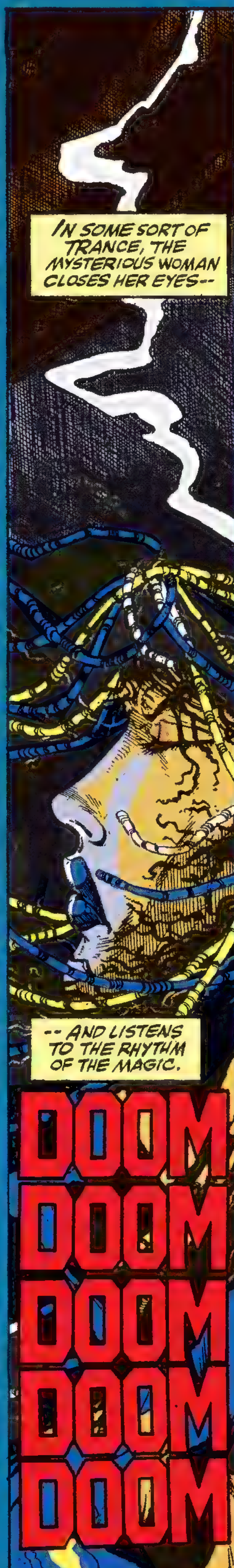
POWER TO
CONTROL.



TO
TORMENT.



TO UTTERLY TOY WITH
THE LIVES OF OTHERS,
TO SATISFY SOME
INSATIABLE NEED.

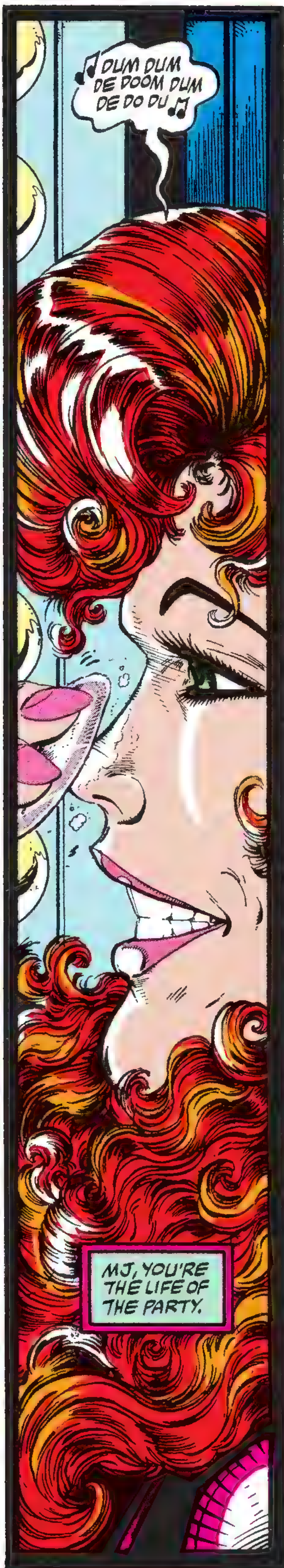


IN SOME SORT OF
TRANCE, THE
MYSTERIOUS WOMAN
CLOSES HER EYES--

-- AND LISTENS
TO THE RHYTHM
OF THE MAGIC.

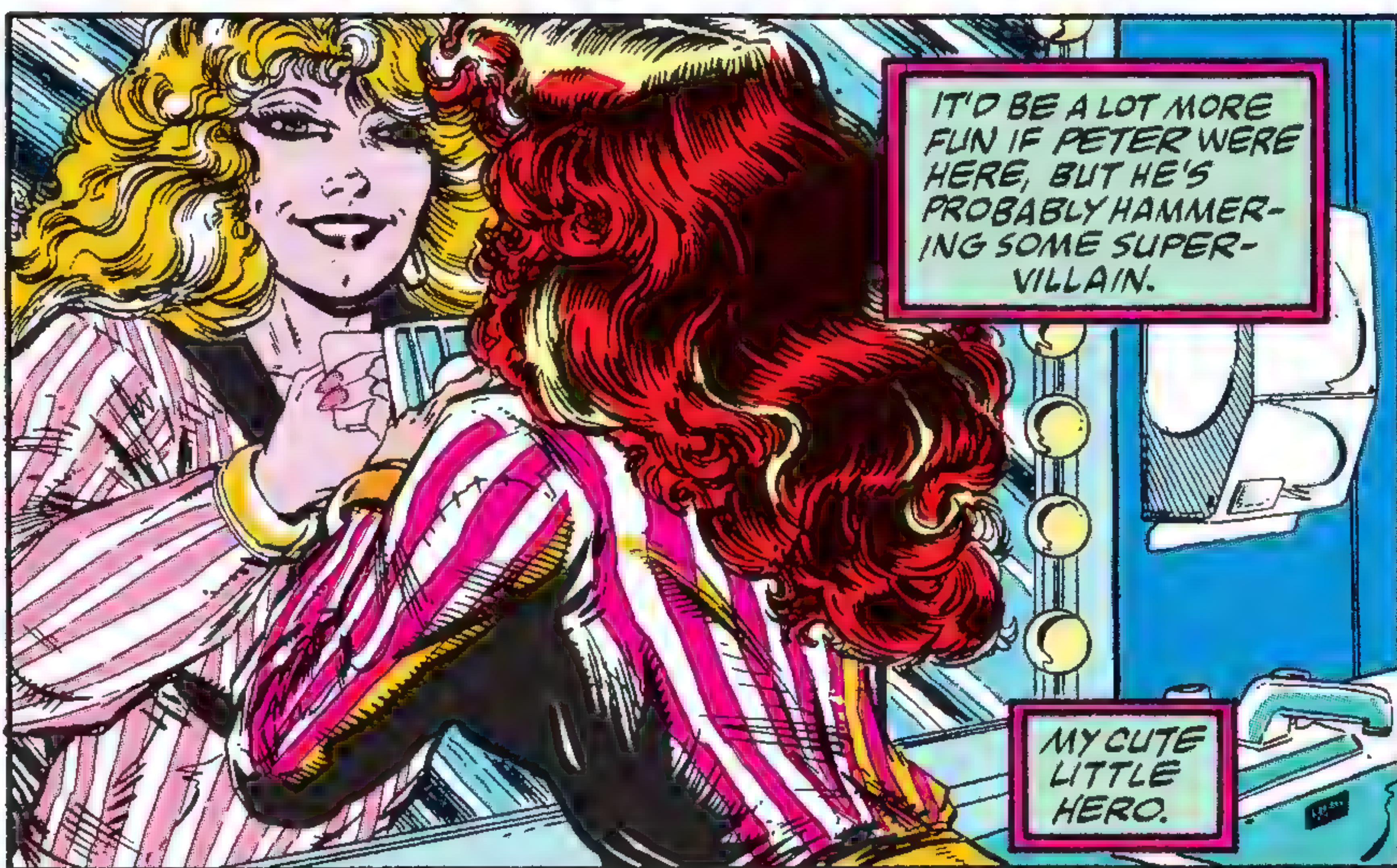
SHE BEGINS TO
DRIFT. BARELY
AWARE OF
SPIDER-MAN
NOW. HER MIND
IS ELSEWHERE.

**DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM**



♪ DUM DUM DE DOOM DUM DE DO DU M ♪

MJ, YOU'RE THE LIFE OF THE PARTY.

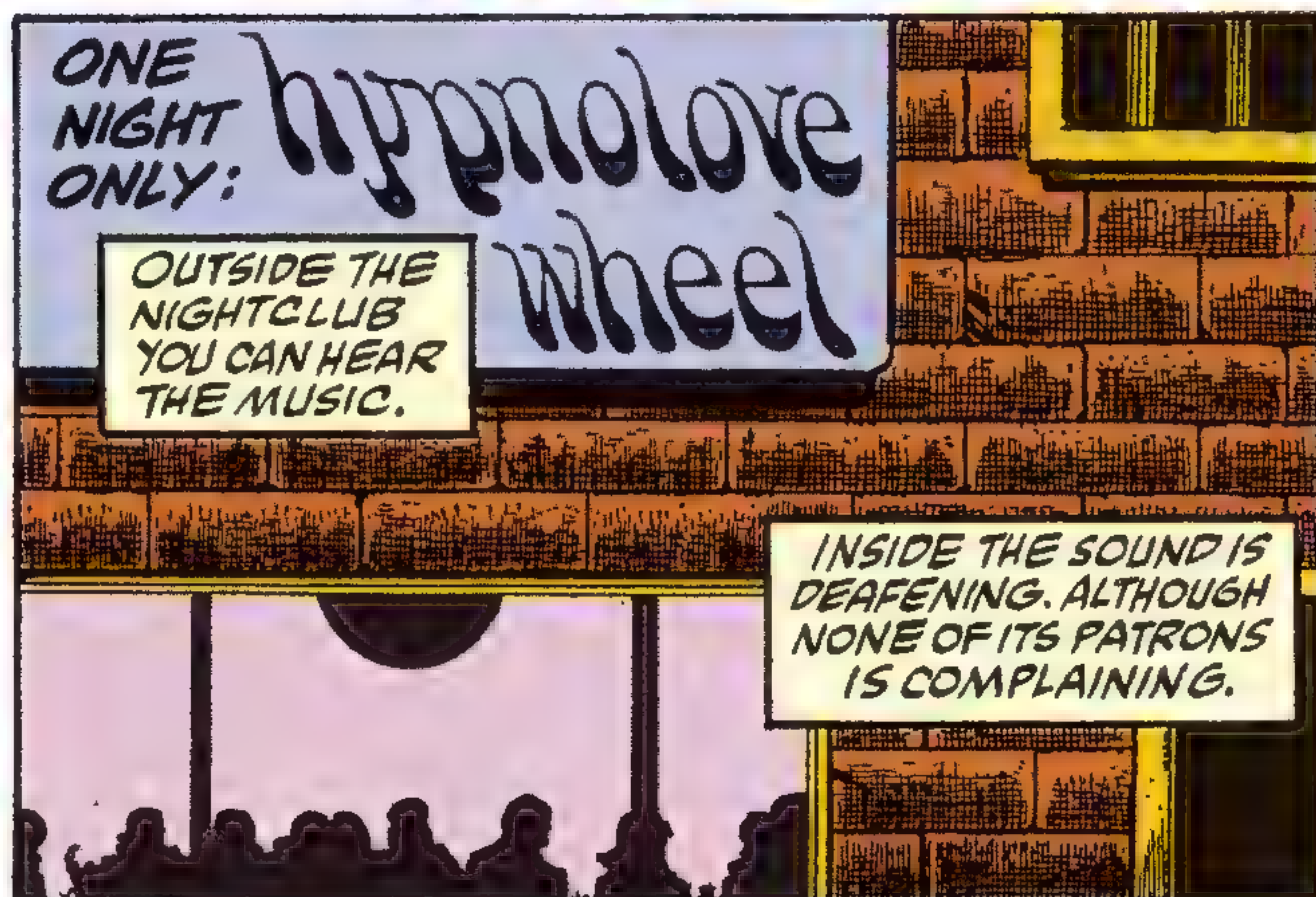


IT'D BE A LOT MORE FUN IF PETER WERE HERE, BUT HE'S PROBABLY HAMMERING SOME SUPER-VILLAIN.

MY CUTE LITTLE HERO.



BUT--IN THE MEAN-TIME, A GIRL'S GOT TO KEEP HERSELF OCCUPIED.



ONE NIGHT ONLY: hippno love wheel

OUTSIDE THE NIGHTCLUB YOU CAN HEAR THE MUSIC.

INSIDE THE SOUND IS DEAFENING. ALTHOUGH NONE OF ITS PATRONS IS COMPLAINING.



THEY ALL SEEM TO BE UNDER THE SPELL OF THE--

--"BEAT"

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

TALK TO
ME--LADY.
TELL ME--
ALL YOUR
PLANS.
ISN'T THAT--
WHAT YOU--
BAD GUYS--
LIVE FOR?

SHE
STANDS
UNMOVING.

NO--
GOOD--

SHE'S--
A SICK--
ONE

WHY IS--
SHE DOING--
THIS?

WHY?!

THE
POISON,
THE
BEATINGS--

WHAT'S--IT
ALL FOR--?

AND THE DOC-- WHERE
DOES HE-- COME INTO--
ALL OF THIS--



EMOTIONLESS,
SHE STANDS
TRANSFIXED.



HER MIND SKIRTING
BACK IN TIME, TO A
SMALL CARIBBEAN
ISLAND, WHERE
MAGIC IS RULER OF
THE LAND.

WHERE DREAMS ARE
NOT MADE, BUT
DESTROYED.



THE POWER
THAT THE
TRIBAL HEADS
WIELDED
MADE HER
ENVIIOUS.



SO SHE STUDIED,
GIVING OF HERSELF
TOTALLY.



EMBRACING
THE WAYS OF
EVIL.

BEING DRAWN
DEEPER AND
DEEPER INTO
THE DARKNESS.



SHE SAVORED
EVERY RITUAL.

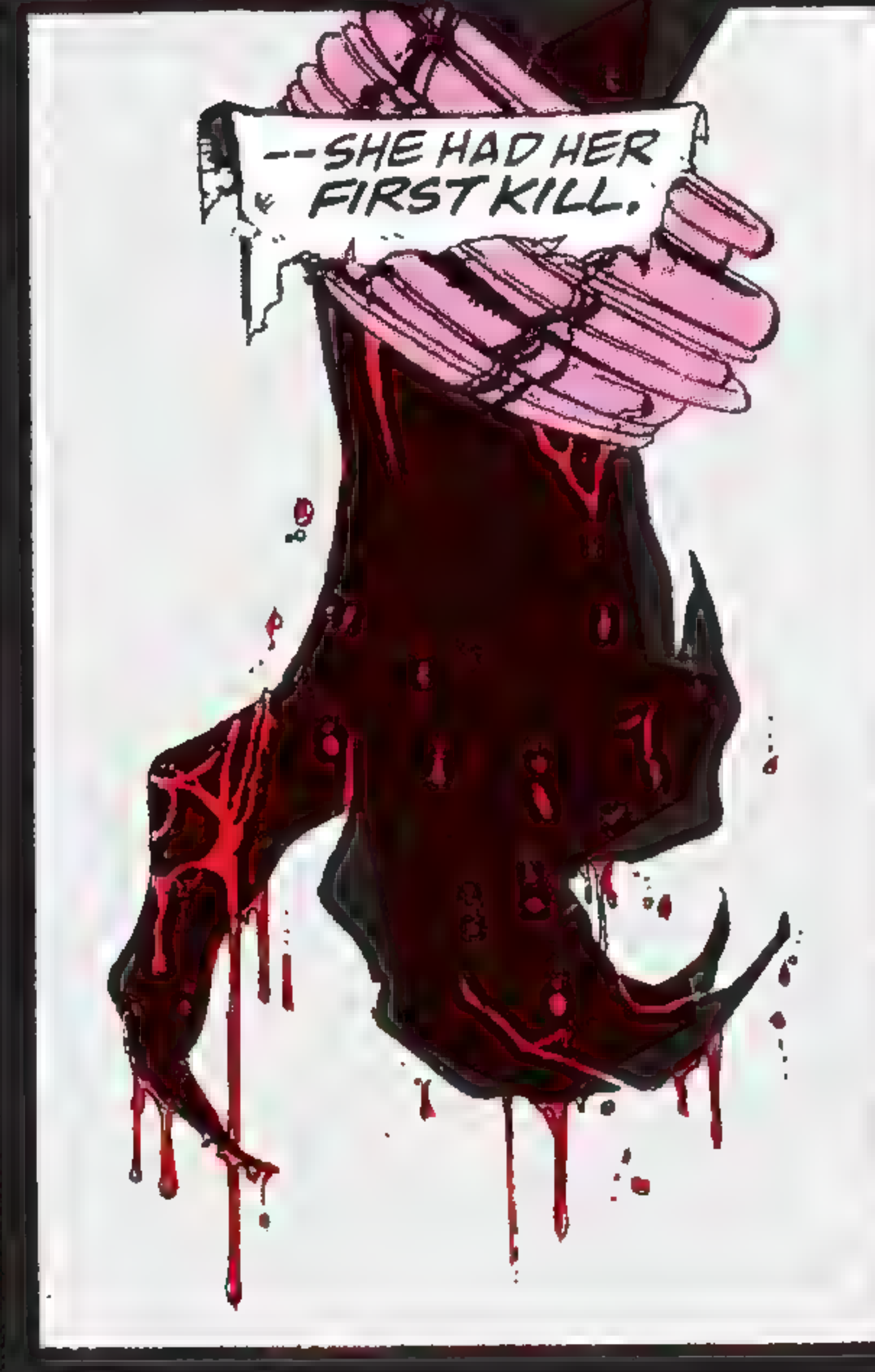
KNOWING THAT
SHE WOULD
SOON BE HER
OWN MASTER.



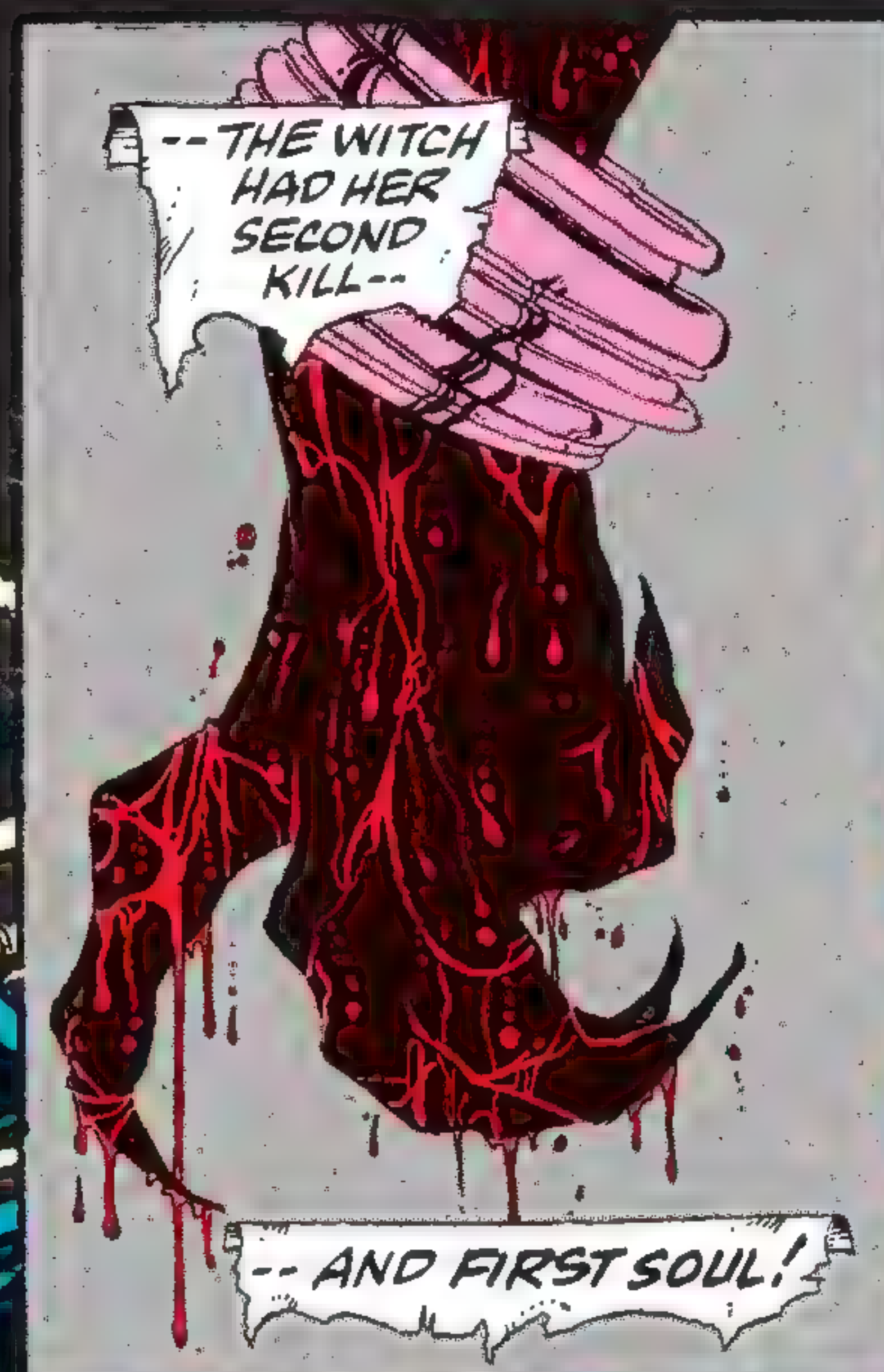
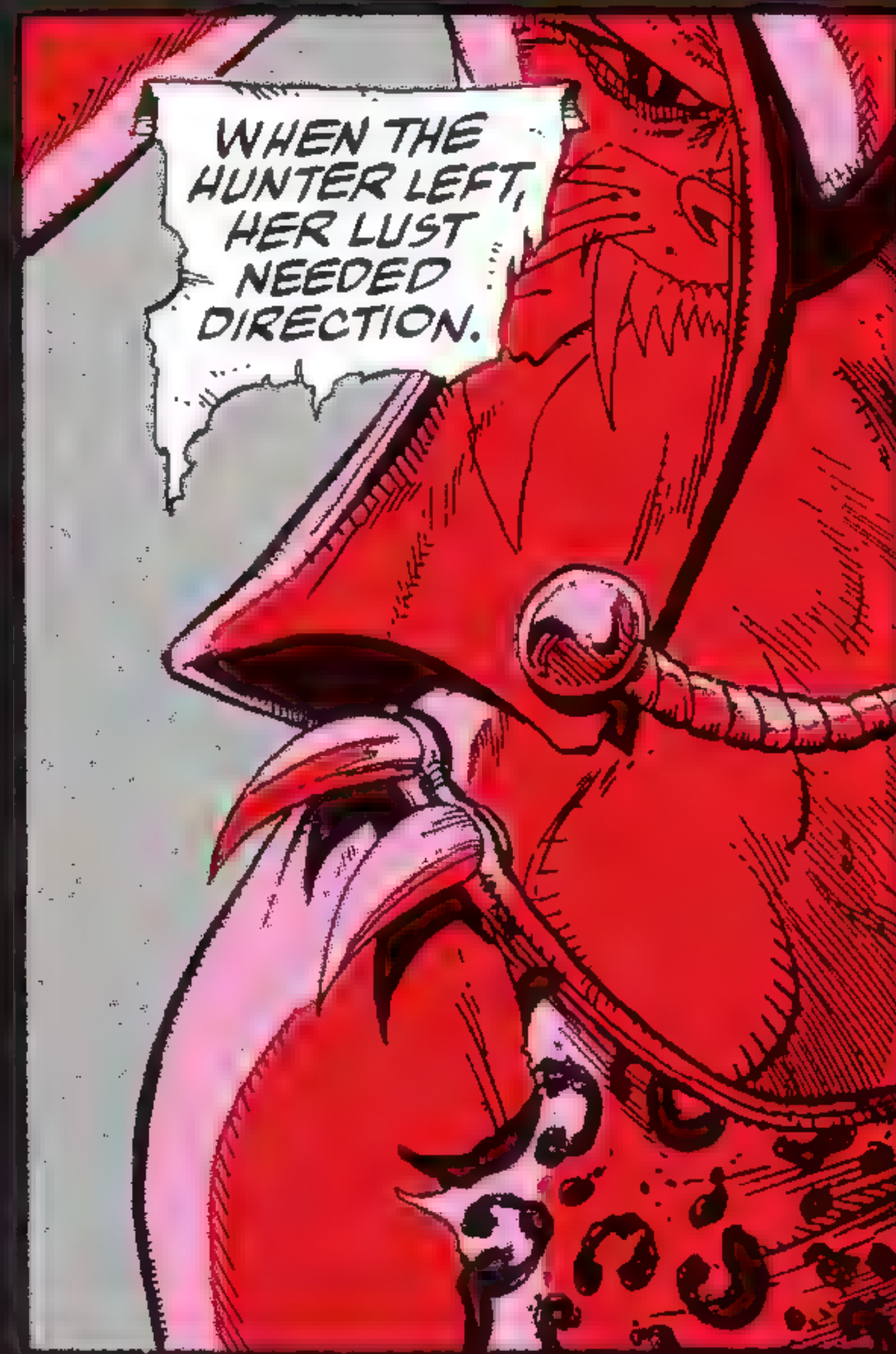
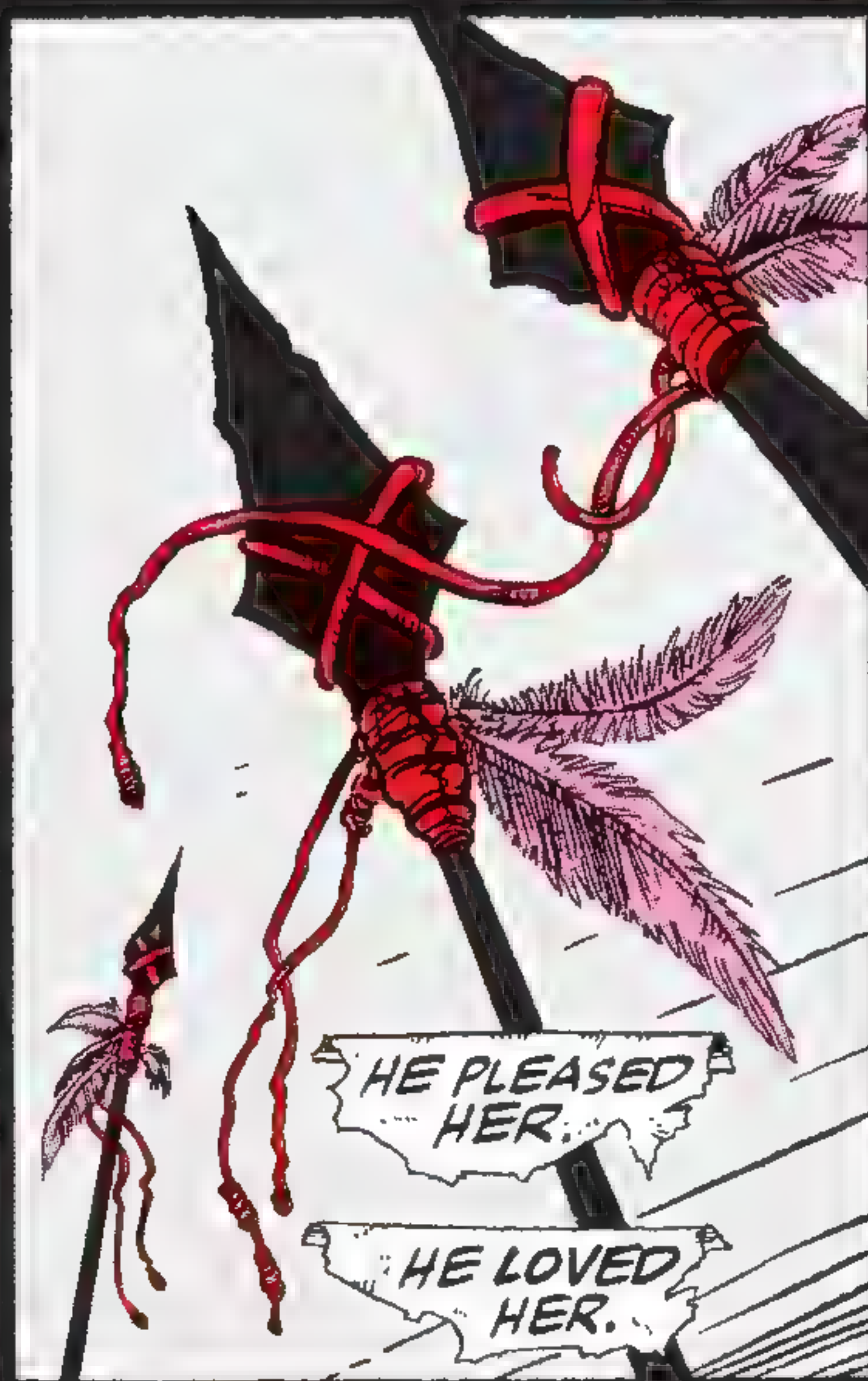
THEN CAME THE
SACRED, CEREMONIAL
BAPTISM.

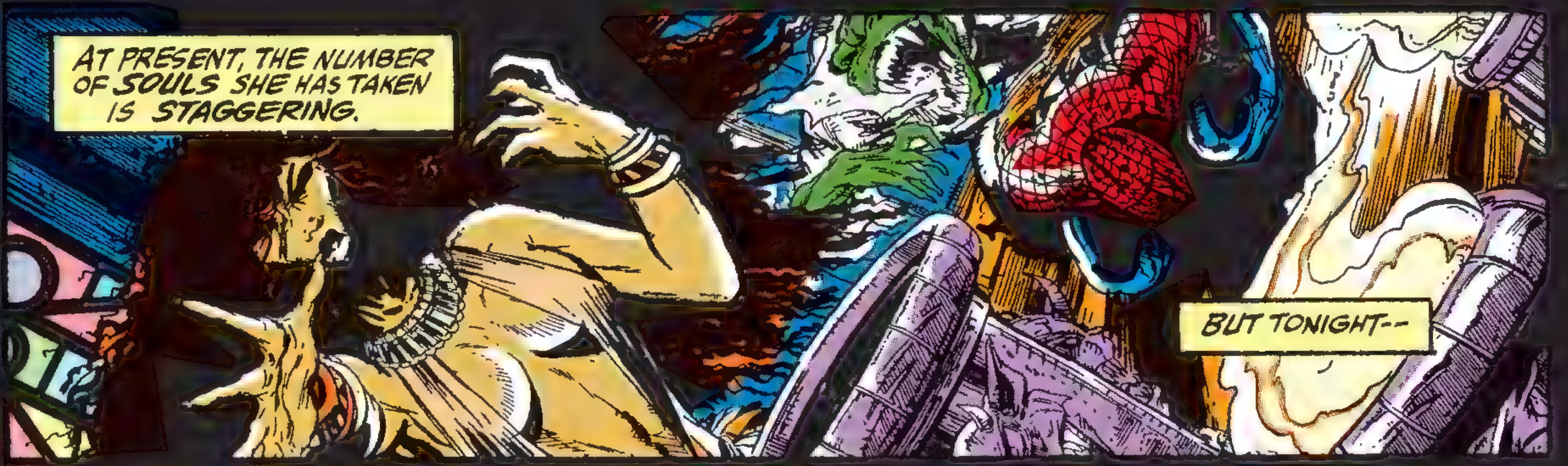


BEFORE THE
NIGHT WAS
OVER --



-- SHE HAD HER
FIRST KILL.





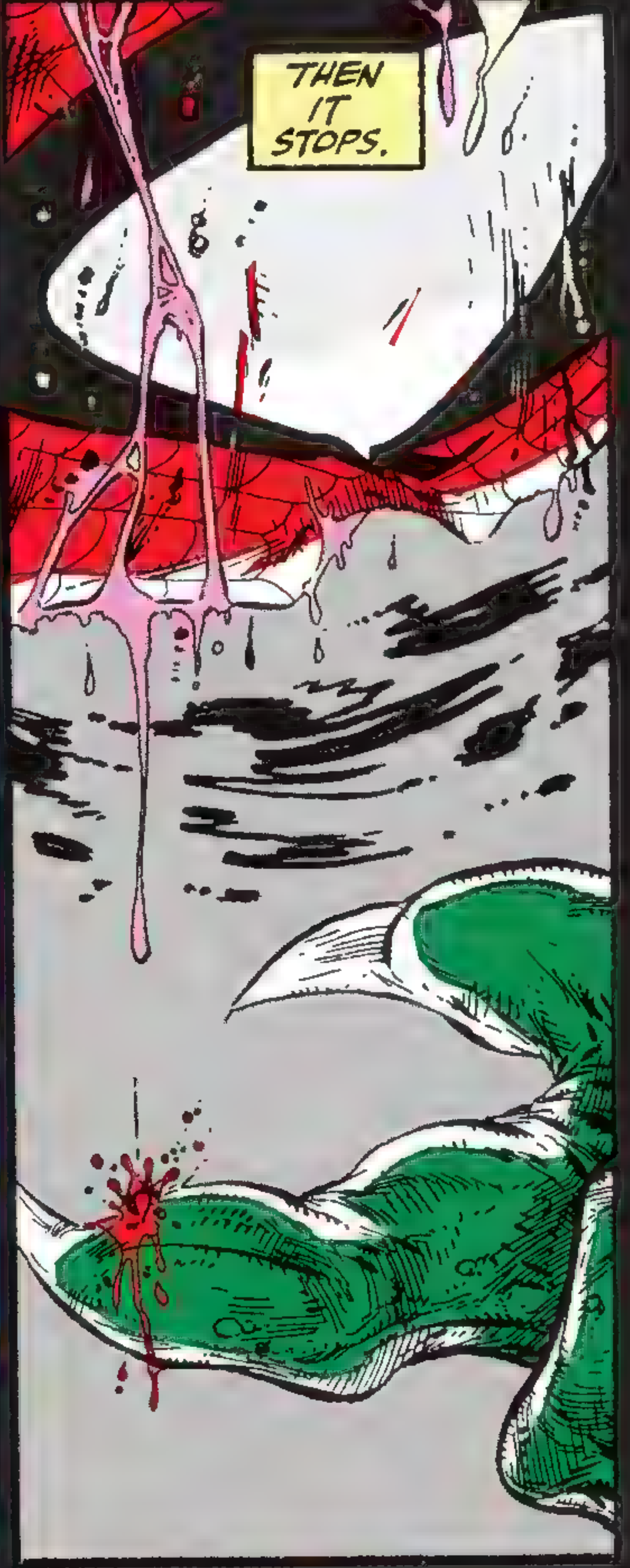
AT PRESENT, THE NUMBER
OF SOULS SHE HAS TAKEN
IS STAGGERING.

BUT TONIGHT--

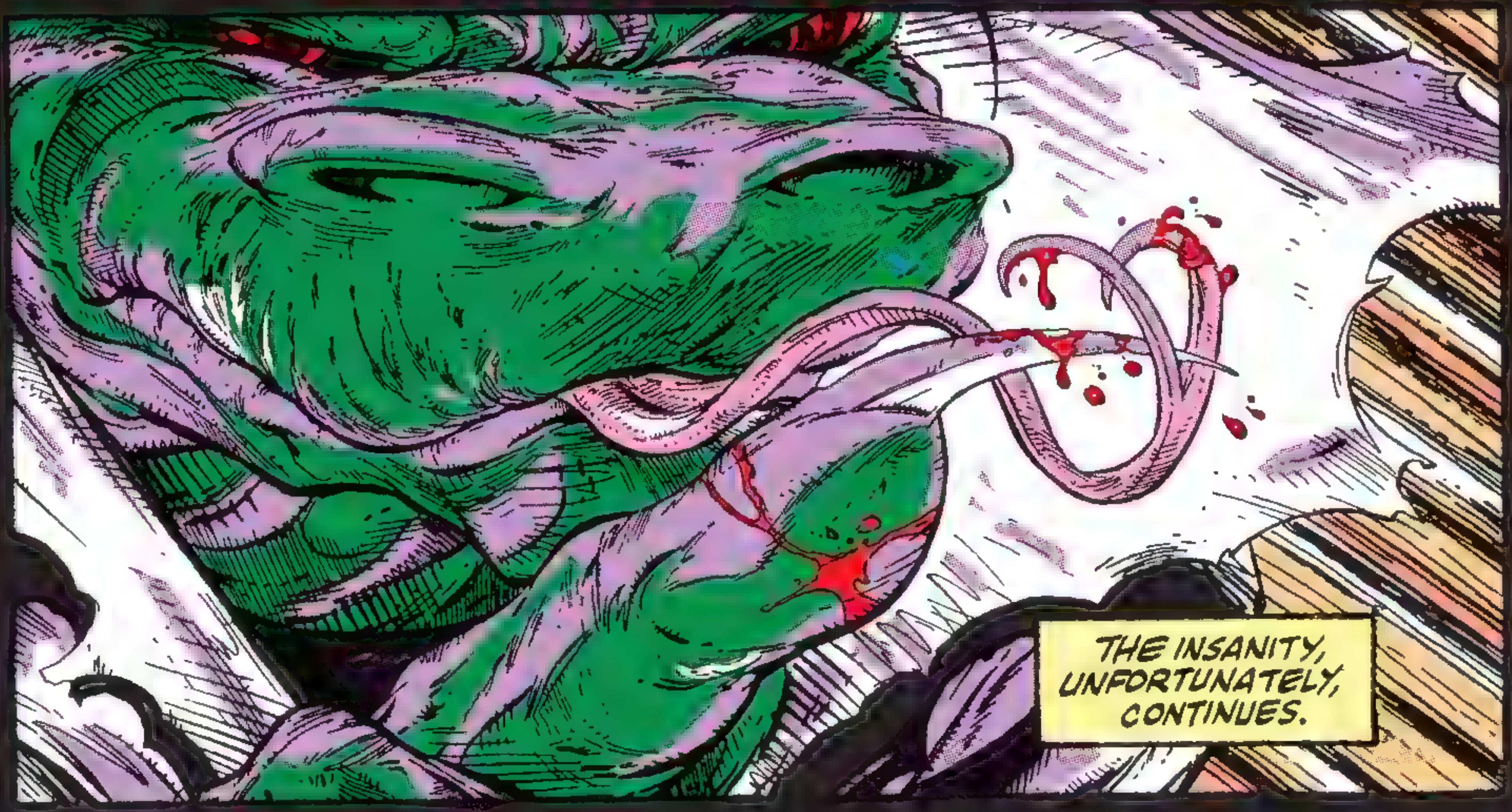


-- SHE
MEANS TO
ADD ONE
MORE TO
HER LIST.

THAT OF THE
SPIDER.



THEN
IT
STOPS.



THE INSANITY,
UNFORTUNATELY,
CONTINUES.



THE WITCH STANDS FROZEN,
CHANNELING THE EVIL SPIRITS
THAT SERVE HER.

THOUGHTS ARE
SCATTERED.

KRAVEN

FOOL

WEAK

POWERLESS

THE CRESCENDO
BUILDS, THE
NUMBING BEAT
BECOMES A
FRENZIED
POUNDING.

IT IS
TIME.

THE LIZARD SHIFTS ITS
WEIGHT, SALIVA OOZES
FROM ITS TOOTHY MAW.
FINALLY, IT SHALL FEAST!

TIME'S UP, PETER!
IF YOU'RE-- GOING--
TO-- ACT-- YOU HAD
BETTER-- DO IT--

DOOM

-- NOW!

YOU'RE BOTH
CRAZY!

BUILT JUST
ENOUGH
STRENGTH.

DOOM

NOW
WHAT?!

I'VE ALREADY
FOUND OUT I
CAN'T KILL
THE LIZARD.

DOOM

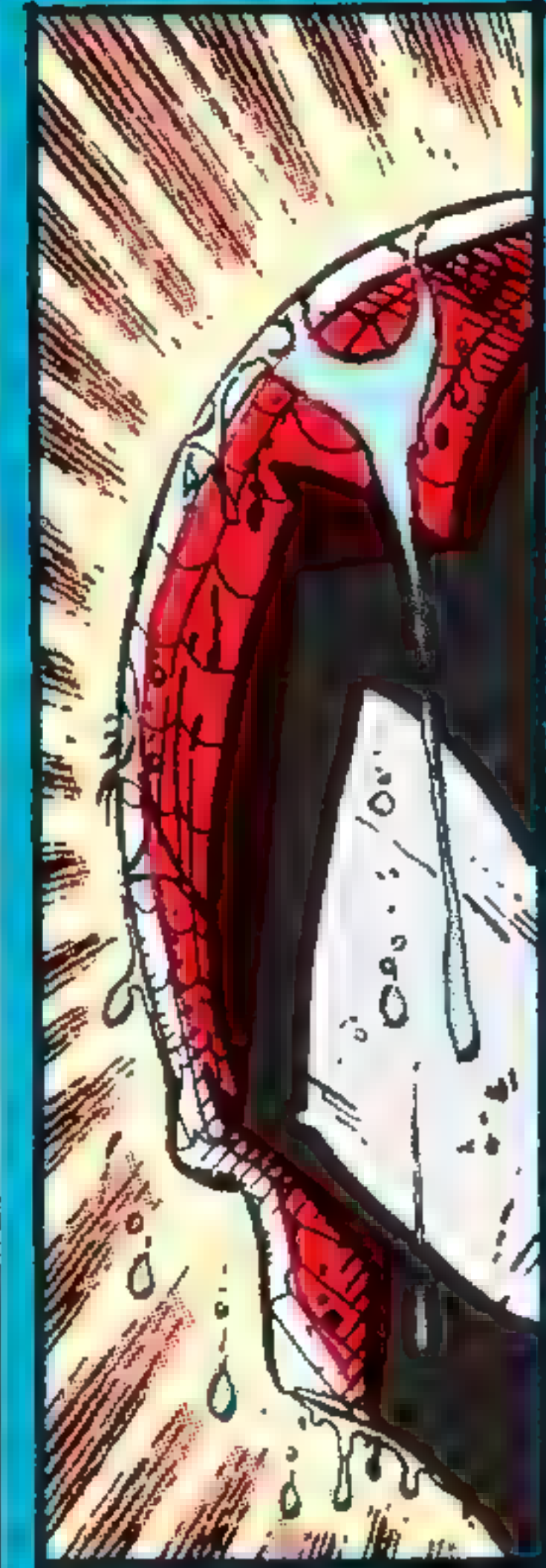
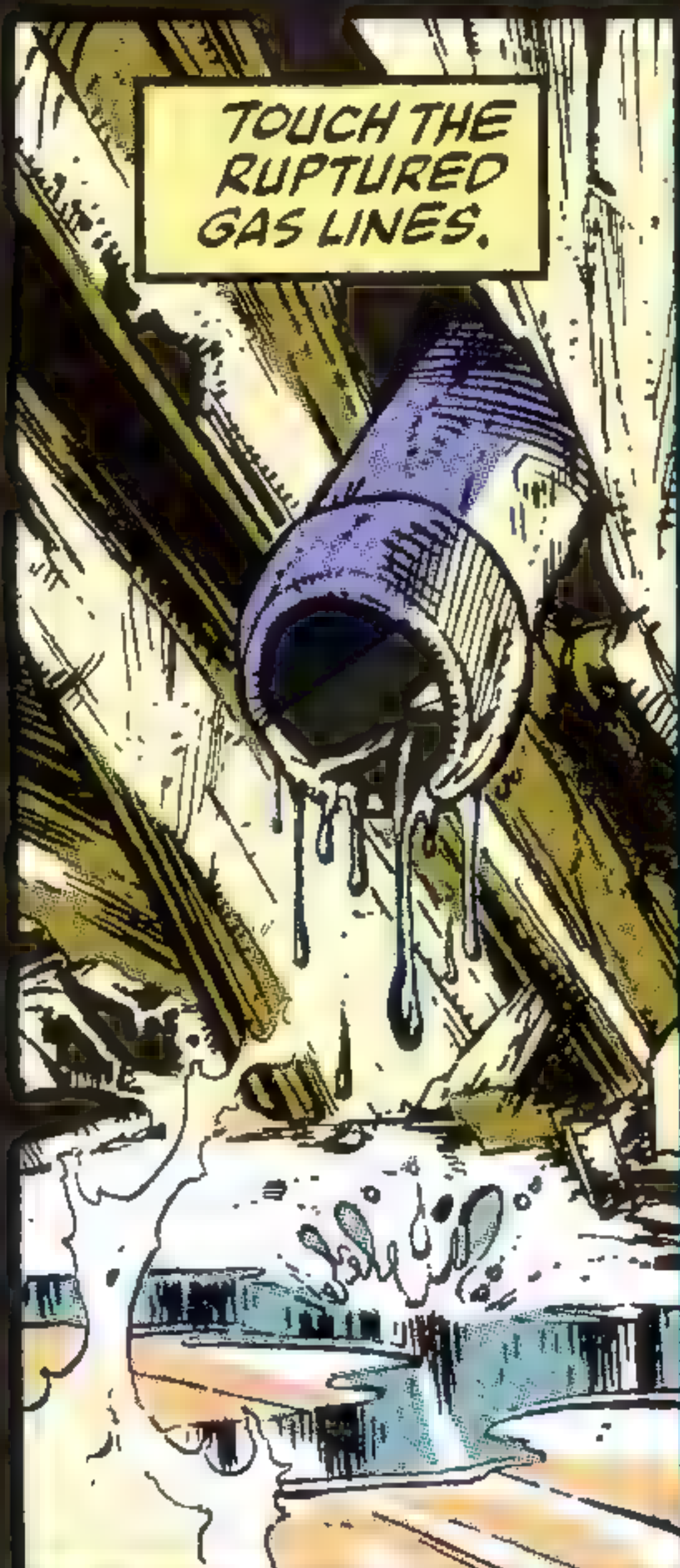
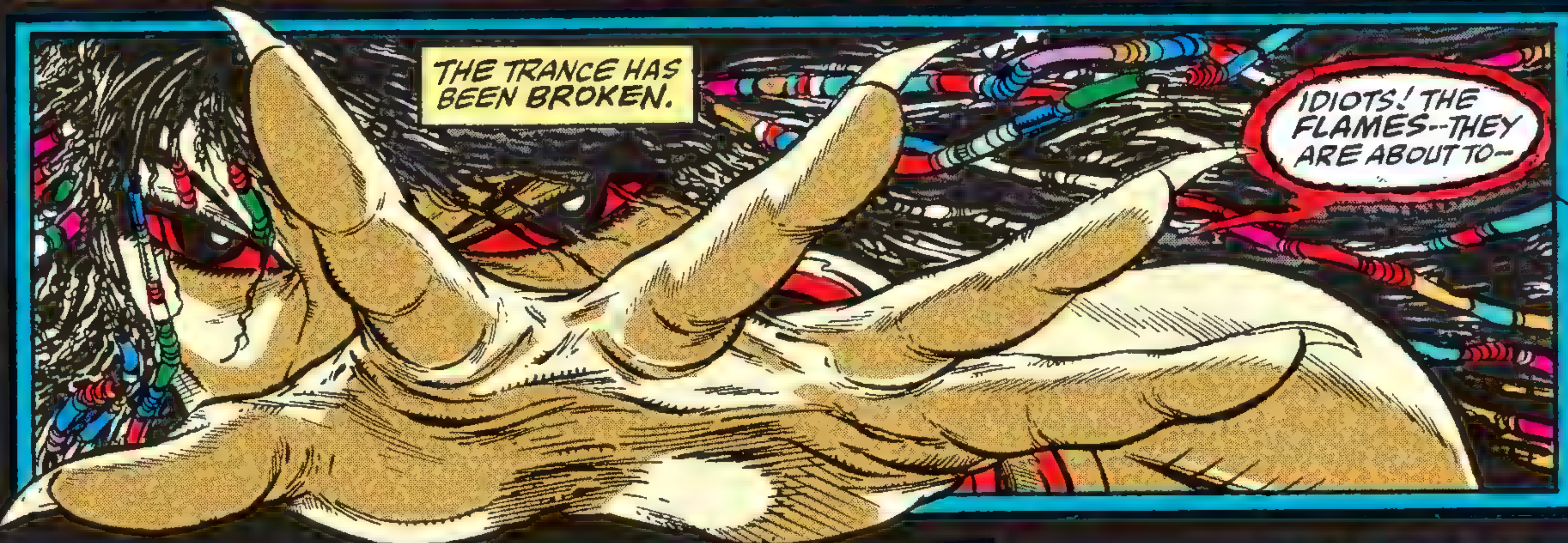
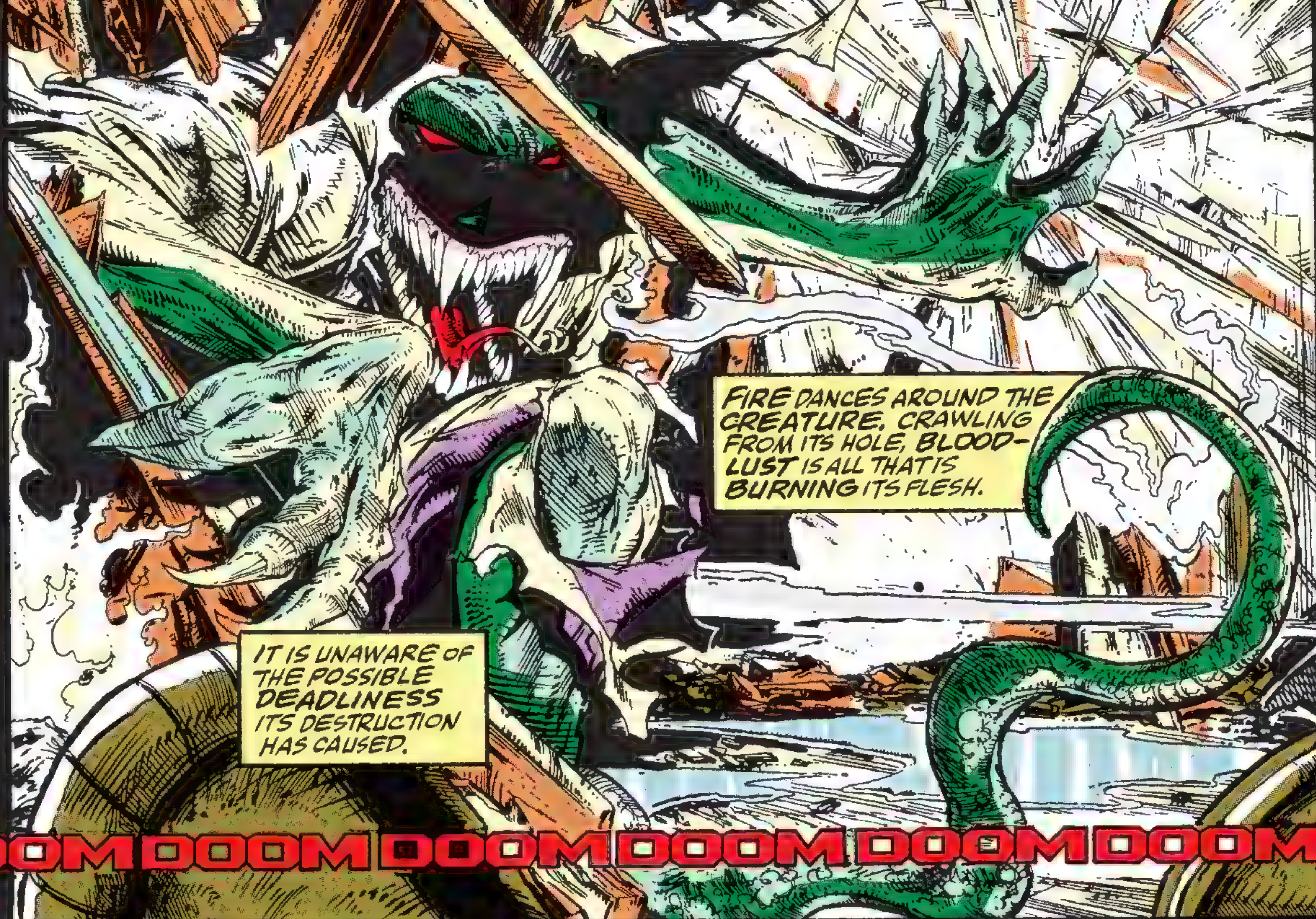
MY GUTS ARE--
STILL ON
FIRE--

-- BUT I HAVE
TO LIVE LONG
ENOUGH TO--
FIND OUT--
WHY?

WHAT IS THIS
WHOLE NIGHT
ABOUT-- ?

ANCIENT FIREPOTS
SPEW FORTH THEIR
FLAMES.

DOOM



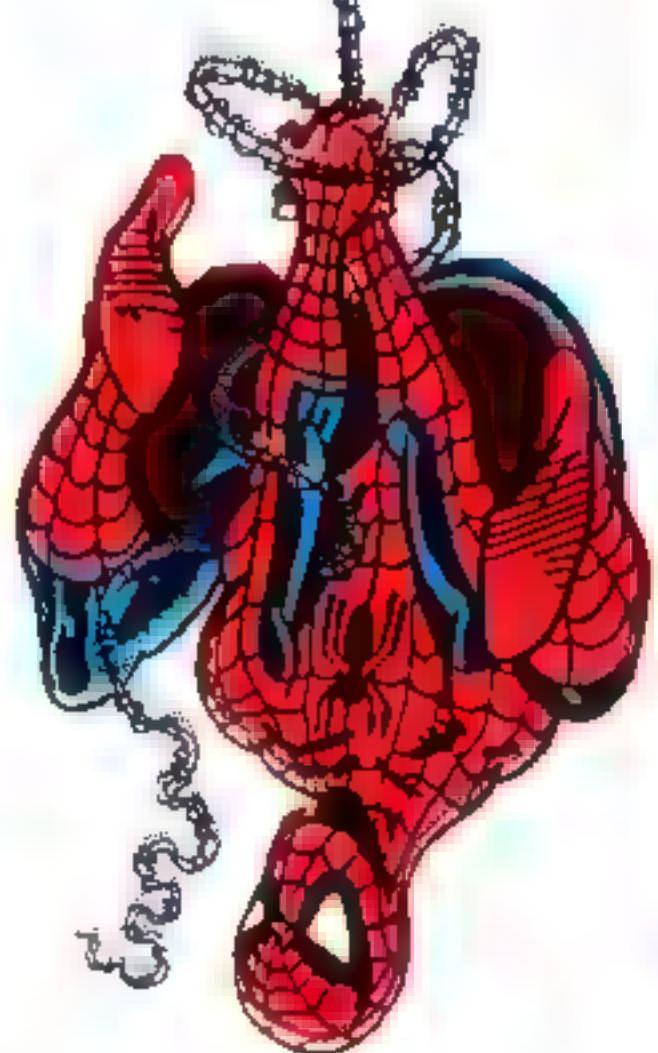


MARY--

--JA *

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SPIDER-MAN[®]

THE ARACHKNIGHT
TRIUMPHANT?!

"TORMENT"
PART FIVE OF FIVE



A NEW YORK CITY POLICE PRECINCT.

2:54 A.M.

HEY, BOYS, WE'VE GOT A BAD ONE! HUGE EXPLOSION ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE. HAPPENED A FEW MINUTES AGO.

AT LORINE REACTION FIRE DEPT NOTI

96 ST. AND AVE. UNITS IN AREA CAUTION T
REPORT IM

I'LL CALL THE FIRE MARSHAL.

CRIPES, LOOK AT THE NUMBER OF REPORTS! THIS IS SERIOUS. C'MON, GEORGE, WE'D BETTER CHECK THIS ONE OUT.

YOU'D BETTER HURRY. THERE MIGHT NOT BE ANYTHING LEFT WHEN YOU GET THERE.

ALL UNITS, WE HAVE AN EXPLOSION WITH FIRE IN PROGRESS--

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEEDS ASSISTANCE AT NINETY-SIXTH AND THIRD.

"PROCEED WITH CAUTION. POSSIBLE CHAIN REACTION IF SURROUNDING PIPING GETS HIT!"

"GIVE PROGRESS REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

"TEN-FOUR, OUT."

THE STILLNESS OF NIGHT HAS BEEN BROKEN.

SIRENS BEGIN TO WAIL AS THEY SPEED ALONG CENTRAL PARK.

HIGH ABOVE THE CITY, SMOKE SNAKES UPWARD. ITS POINT OF ORIGIN BEING LEFT BEHIND FOR OTHERS TO CARE FOR.

THE CONFUSION-- THE DESTRUCTION, HAVE NO MEANING TO THE SMOKE, THE SKY, THE WIND.

THE SMOKE'S SOLE PURPOSE IS TO DRIFT AIMLESSLY AND TO--

--RISE ABOVE
IT ALL.

IT WILL TAKE FOUR AND
A HALF MINUTES FOR
THE FIRE TRUCKS TO
ARRIVE.

THE NEXT FOUR
MINUTES WILL
SEEM LIKE AN
ETERNITY FOR
OUR HERO.

HIS NAME IS SPIDER-MAN.
THE EXPLOSION DID NOT
KILL HIM. SOON HE MAY BE
SORRY FOR THAT.

HELP ME--SOMEBODY!

PLEASE--TELL ME
WHAT'S HAPPENING!?

WHAT--HAS THIS ALL--
BEEN--FOR?

THE LIZARD.
THAT
WOMAN--

--ARE THEY--
--DEAD--

--ALIVE--

--WHAT?

WHY?

SOMEONE--TELL
ME--WHY--

WHY?!

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

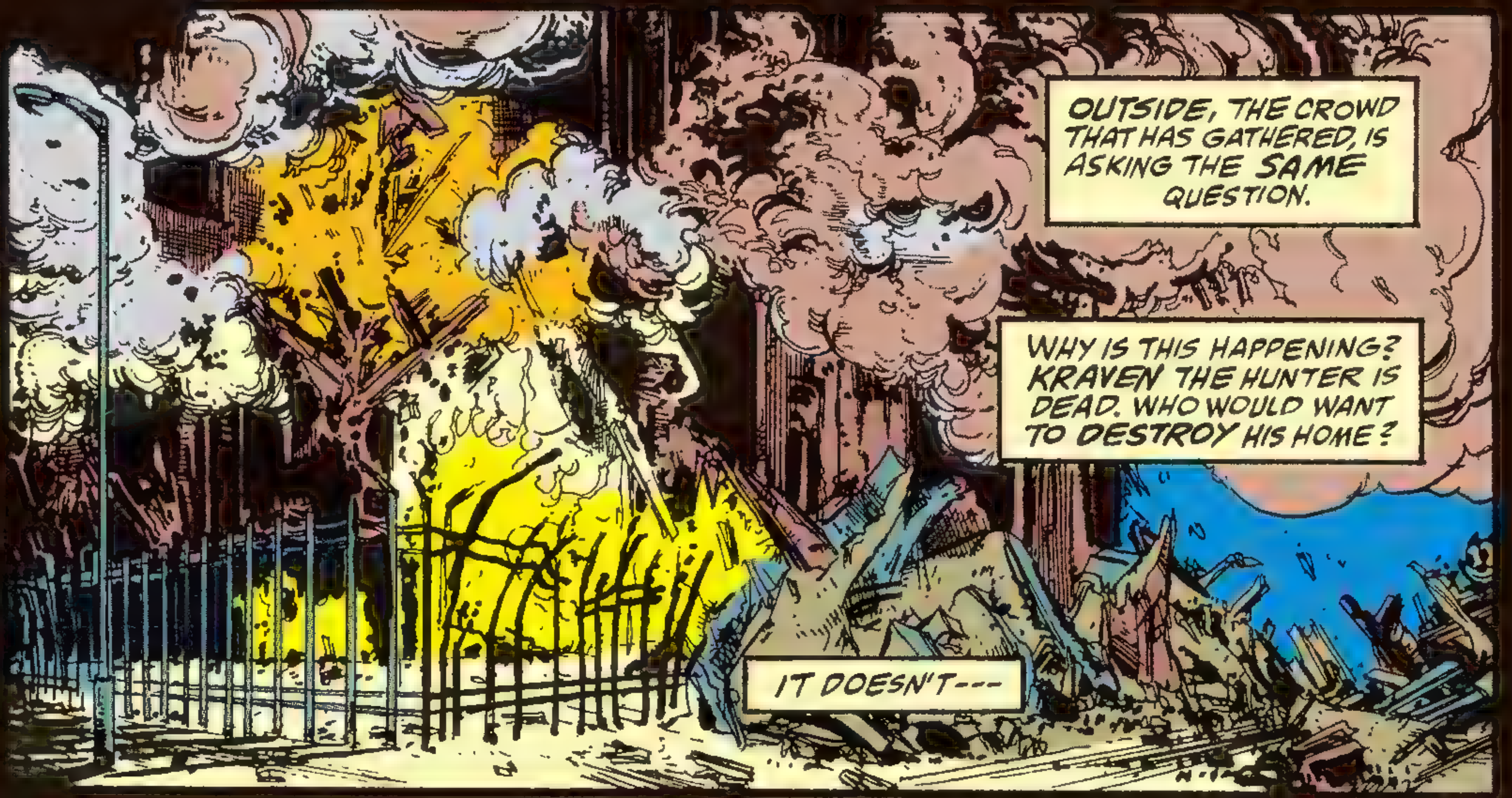
T O R M E N T

PART 5

ARTIST-
WRITER

TODD
McFARLANE

LETTERS
RICK PARKER
COLORS
GREGORY
WRIGHT
EDITOR
TIM SALICRUP
EDITOR
CHIEF
TOM DeFALCO



OUTSIDE, THE CROWD THAT HAS GATHERED, IS ASKING THE SAME QUESTION.

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING? KRAVEN THE HUNTER IS DEAD. WHO WOULD WANT TO DESTROY HIS HOME?

IT DOESN'T---

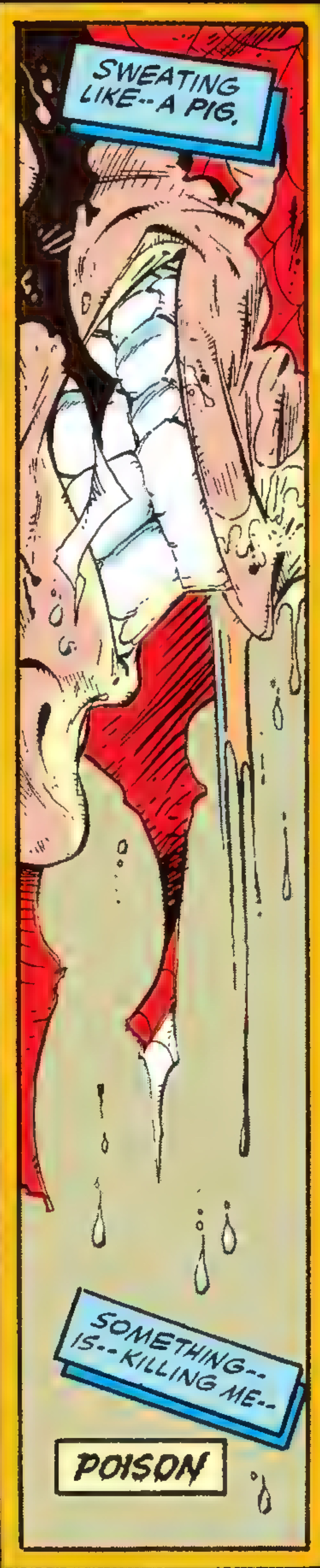


--MAKE SENSE.

GOT TO-- FIGHT--

--THE PAIN--

POISON.



SWEATING LIKE-- A PIG.

SOMETHING-- IS-- KILLING ME--

POISON



HOME---

--HAVE TO GET--
=UNG-- HOME--

--GOT TO-- SEE--
--HER--

--NEED--
--TO HOLD--

"---MARY JANE."

LISTEN TO THOSE
SIRENS, LADY. WHAT
DO THEY WANNA DO--
WAKE UP THE WHOLE
NEIGHBORHOOD?

THEM
IDIOTS!

THEY'RE ONLY DOING
THEIR JOB. JUST LIKE
PETER. HOPE HE'S
DONE PLAYING
SPIDER-MAN.

WASN'T HOME AT
MIDNIGHT.

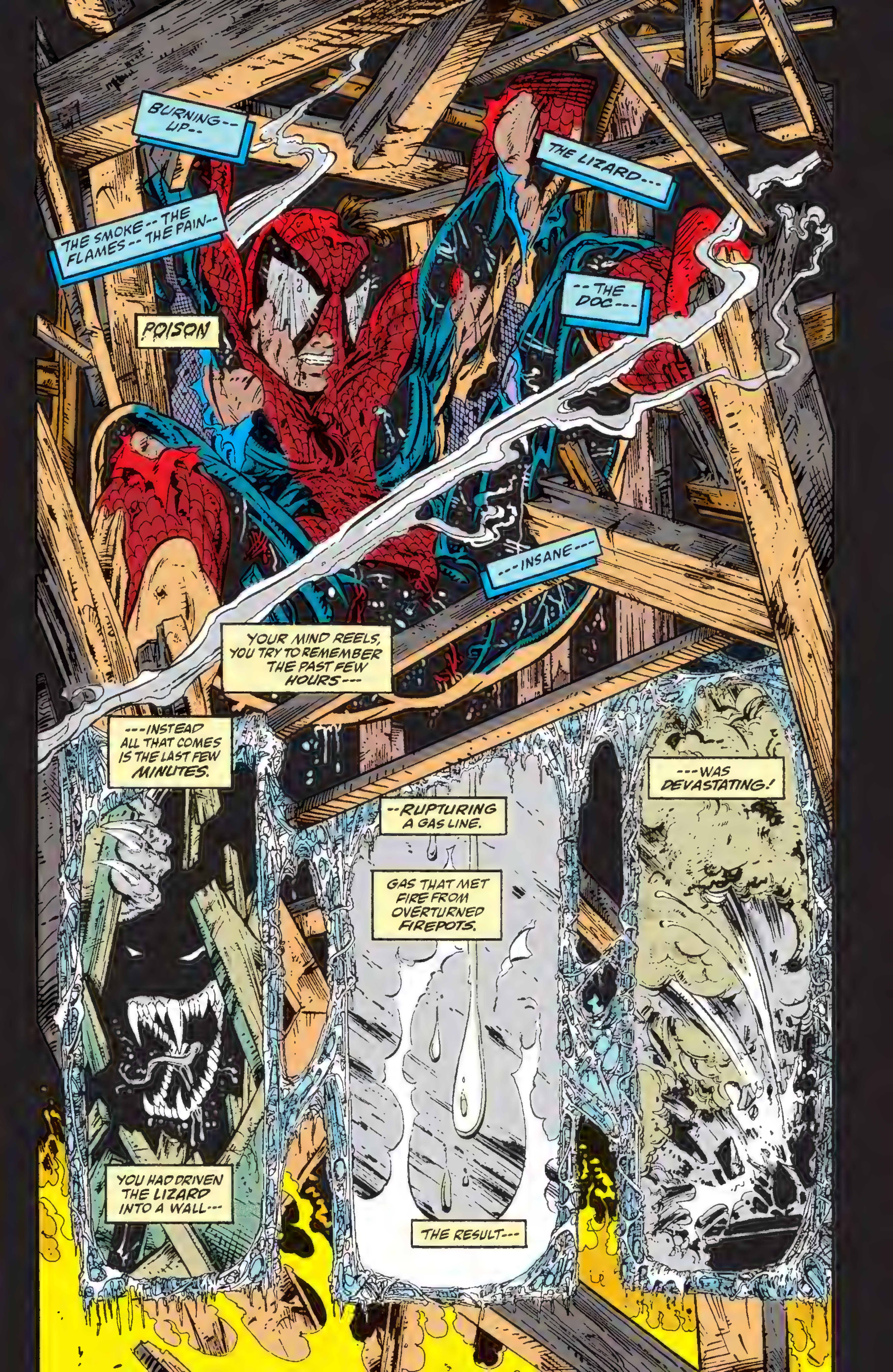
WHY DON'T THEY
GET A MUFFLER FOR
THOSE THINGS.
IT'S ALMOST 3 O'CLOCK
IN THE MORNING---

---WHAT, DO THEY
THINK, TRAFFIC'S GONNA
SLOW THEM DOWN?

IT'LL BE NICE
JUST TO CUDDLE
UP TO HIM--

IDIOTS!

--MAYBE EVEN
GET A LITTLE
HOT!

A full-page comic book illustration showing Spider-Man in his red and blue suit amidst the wreckage of a wooden building. He is surrounded by debris, including splintered beams and twisted metal. The scene is chaotic, with smoke and fire visible in the background. Spider-Man's expression is one of intense pain and confusion. Several speech bubbles and text boxes are overlaid on the image, providing context to the scene.

BURNING--
UP--

THE SMOKE-- THE
FLAMES-- THE PAIN--

POISON

THE LIZARD...

-- THE
DOC---

---INSANE---

YOUR MIND REELS,
YOU TRY TO REMEMBER
THE PAST FEW
HOURS---

---INSTEAD
ALL THAT COMES
IS THE LAST FEW
MINUTES.

---WAS
DEVASTATING!

--RUPTURING
A GAS LINE.

GAS THAT MET
FIRE FROM
OVERTURNED
FIREPOTS.

YOU HAD DRIVEN
THE LIZARD
INTO A WALL---

THE RESULT---



ALL BECAUSE OF
THE WITCH.

SHE CAME FROM
NOWHERE
AND GAVE NO
ANSWERS.

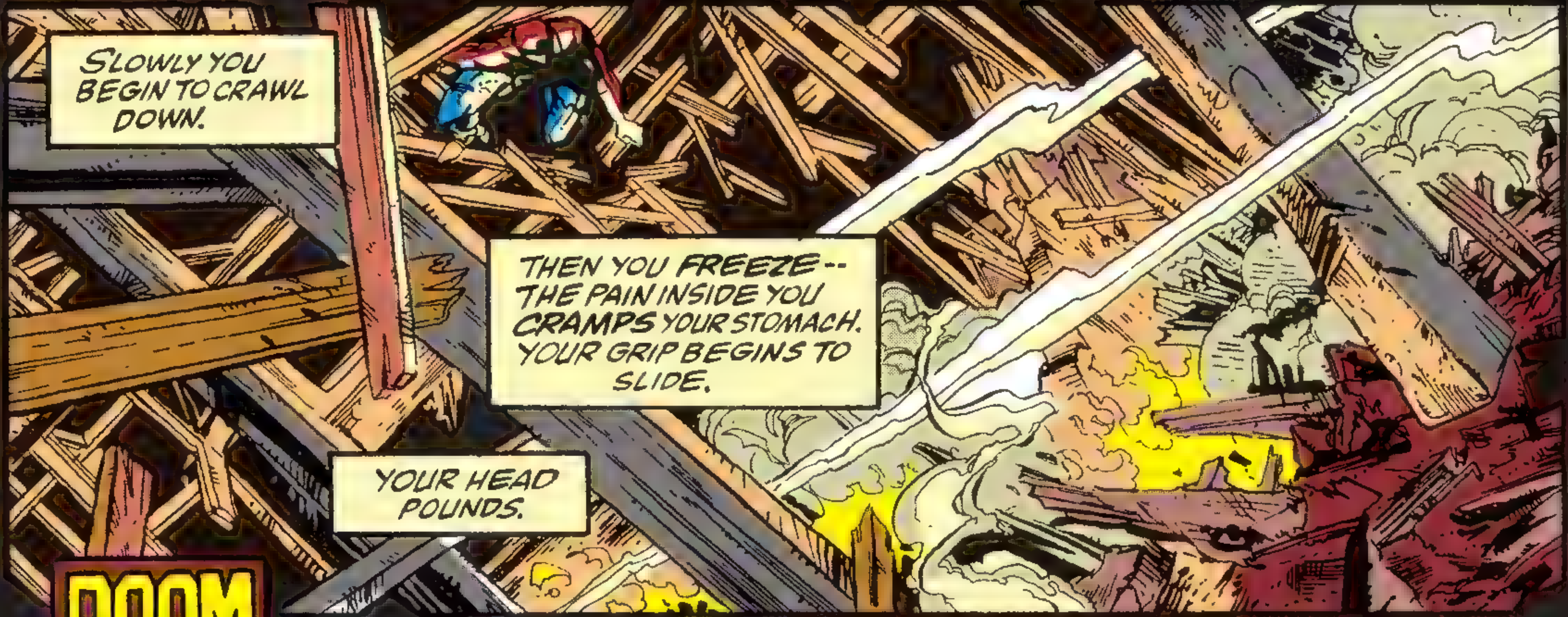
SHE POSSESSED THE
LIZARD, USED HIM.
HE KILLED SIX PEOPLE,
AND FOR WHAT?

SHE'S SICK-- EVIL.
YOUR DEATH,
SPIDER-MAN,
SEEMED TO BE
THE ONLY CAUSE
FOR TONIGHT'S
TORMENT.

YOU HAVE
NOTHING. YOU
DON'T EVEN
KNOW HER
NAME.

THAT IS WHAT
GNAWS AT YOU
THE MOST. IF
YOU ARE GOING
TO DIE--

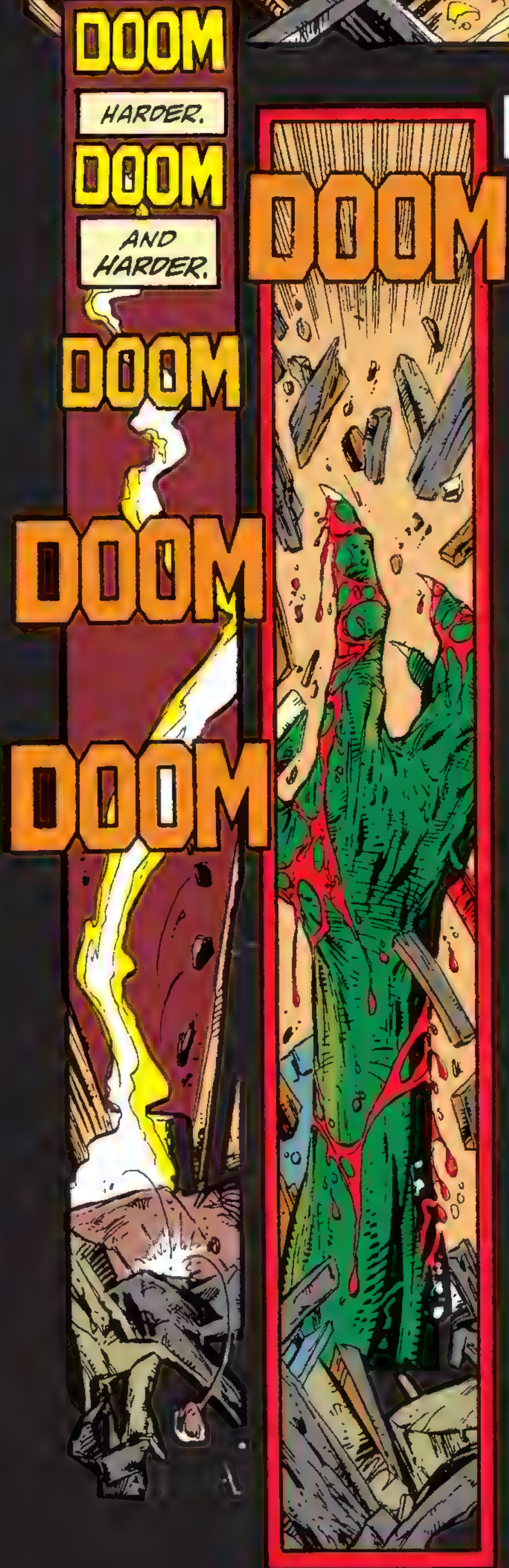
-- THEN AT
LEAST
LET THERE
BE A
REASON.



SLOWLY YOU
BEGIN TO CRAWL
DOWN.

THEN YOU FREEZE--
THE PAIN INSIDE YOU
CRAMPS YOUR STOMACH.
YOUR GRIP BEGINS TO
SLIDE.

YOUR HEAD
POUNDS.



HARDER.

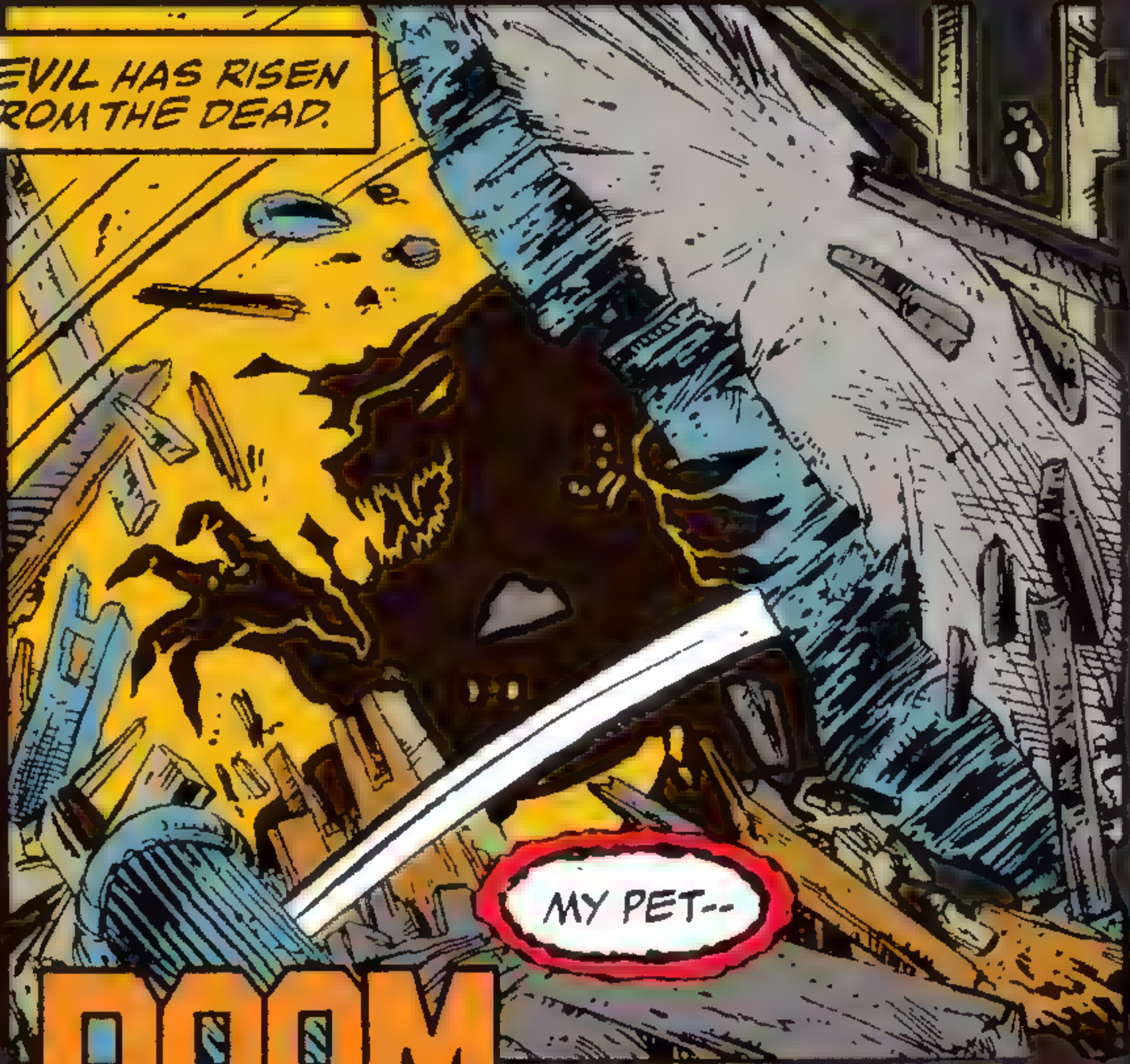
DOOM

AND
HARDER.

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM



EVIL HAS RISEN
FROM THE DEAD.

MY PET--

DOOM



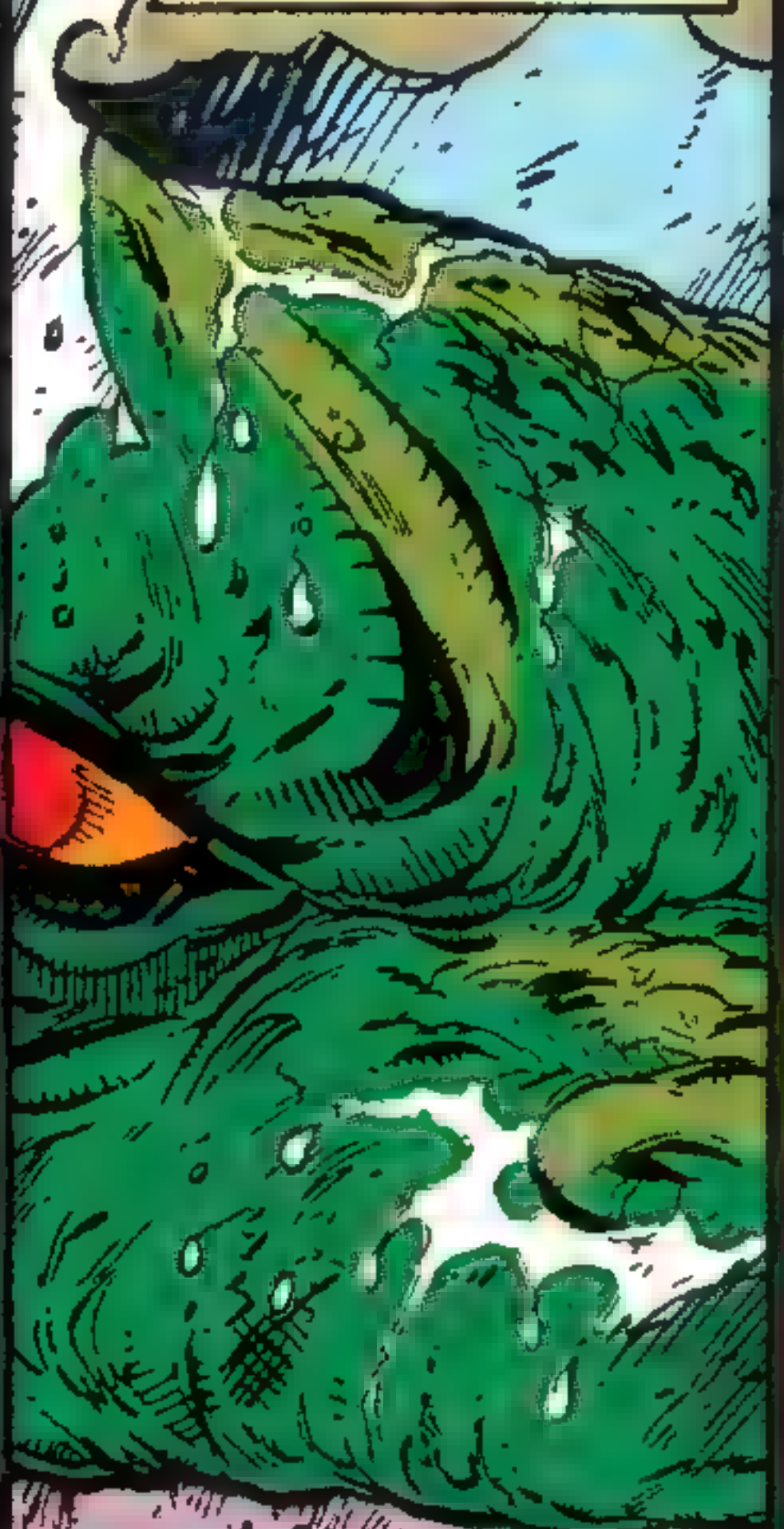
--NOTHING
CAN STOP US.

THE WITCH
BLEEDS. LIFE
DRAINS FROM
HER-- BUT SHE
IS BLINDED
TO IT ALL.



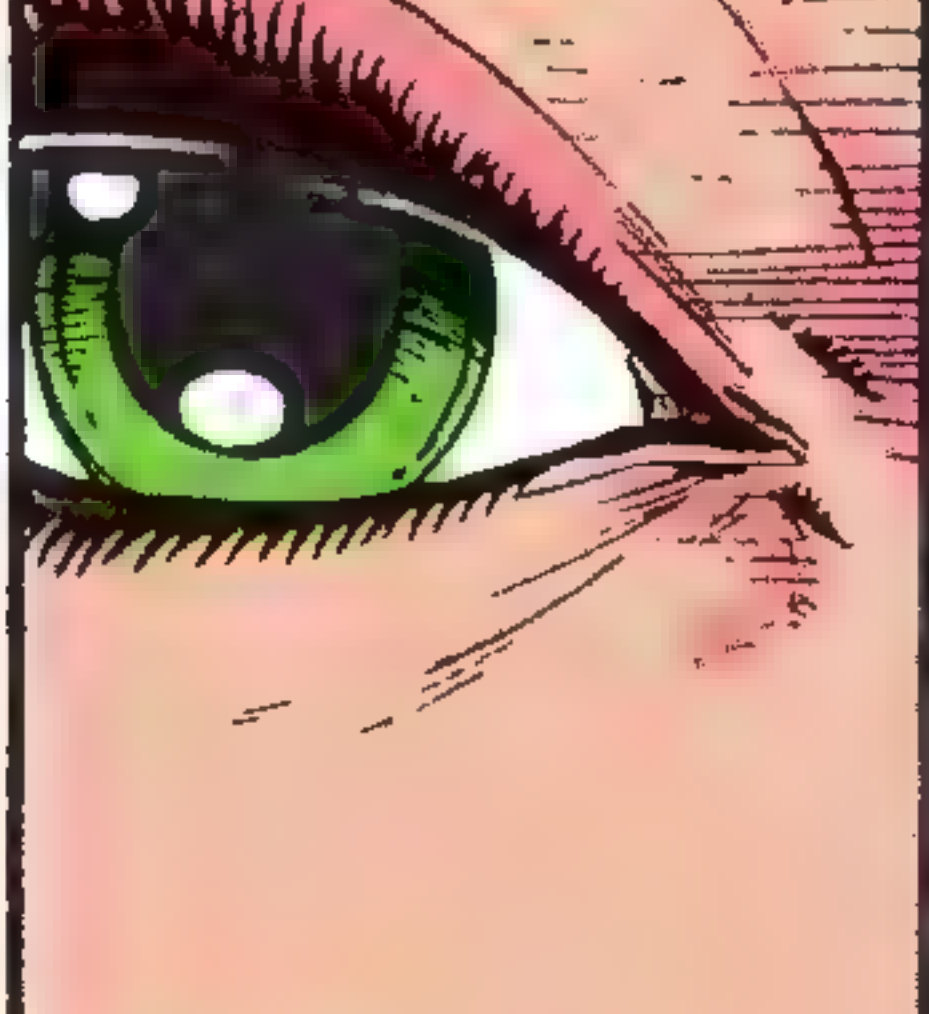
CONSUMED
WITH AN
IMAGE THAT
MUST BE
OBLITERATED,
CLEANSED
FROM HER
MIND.

AN IMAGE OF--

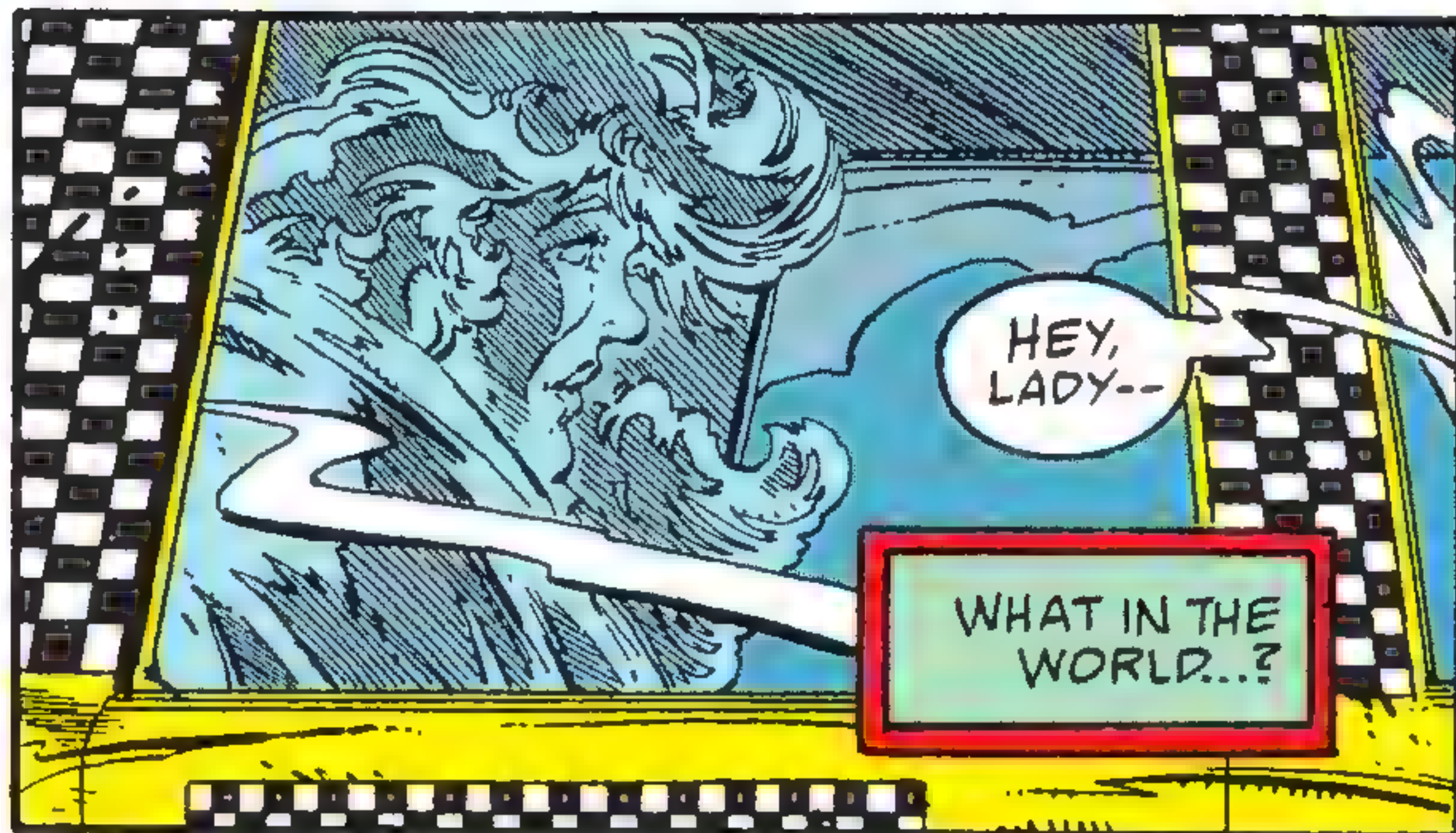


-- THE
SPIDER.

THANK
GOD IT'S
FRIDAY.
PETER AND
I CAN SLEEP
IN UNTIL
NOON. MAYBE
DO A LITTLE
SHOPPING.

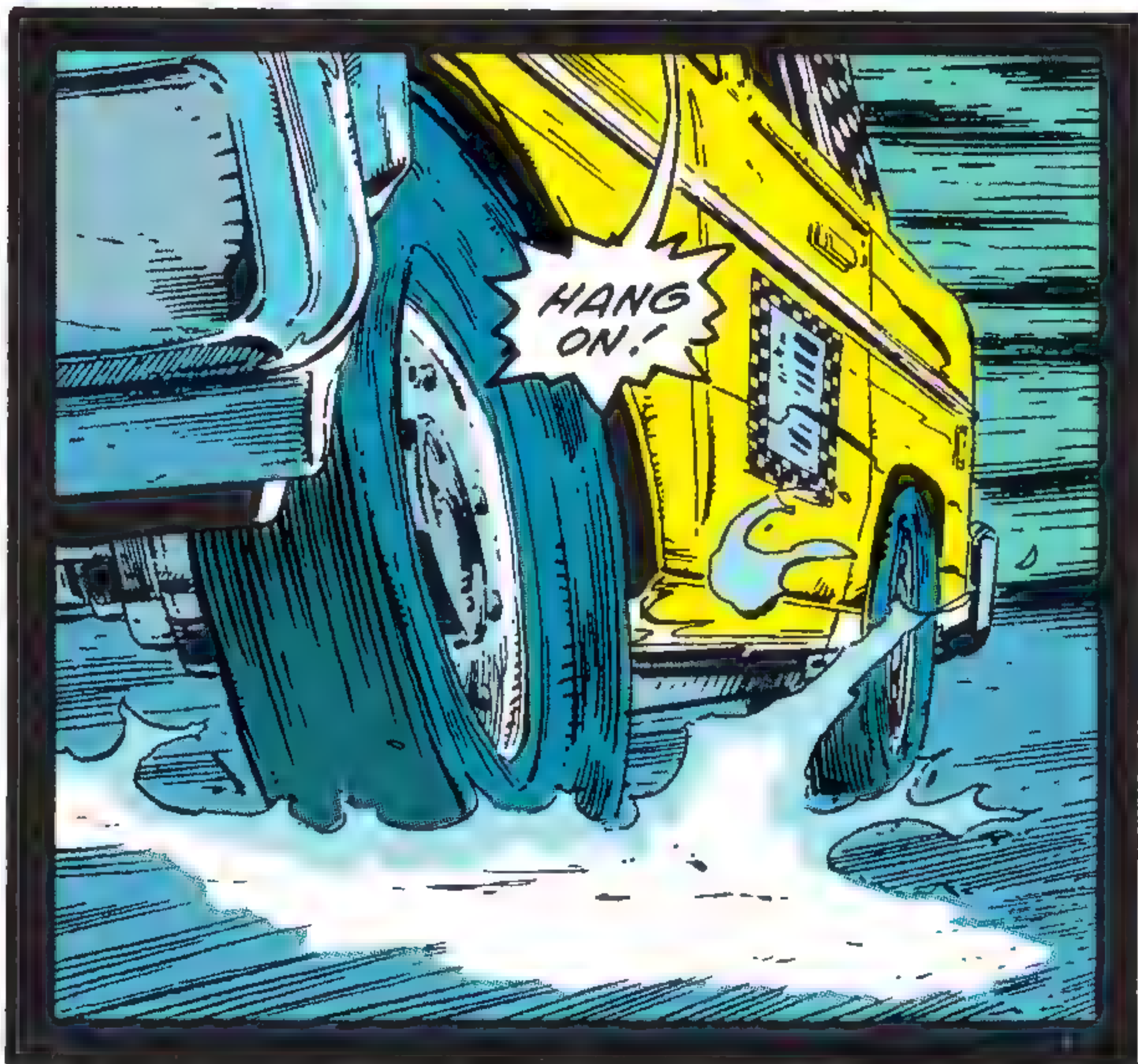


JUST TRY
TO RELAX
FOR A
CHANGE.



HEY,
LADY--

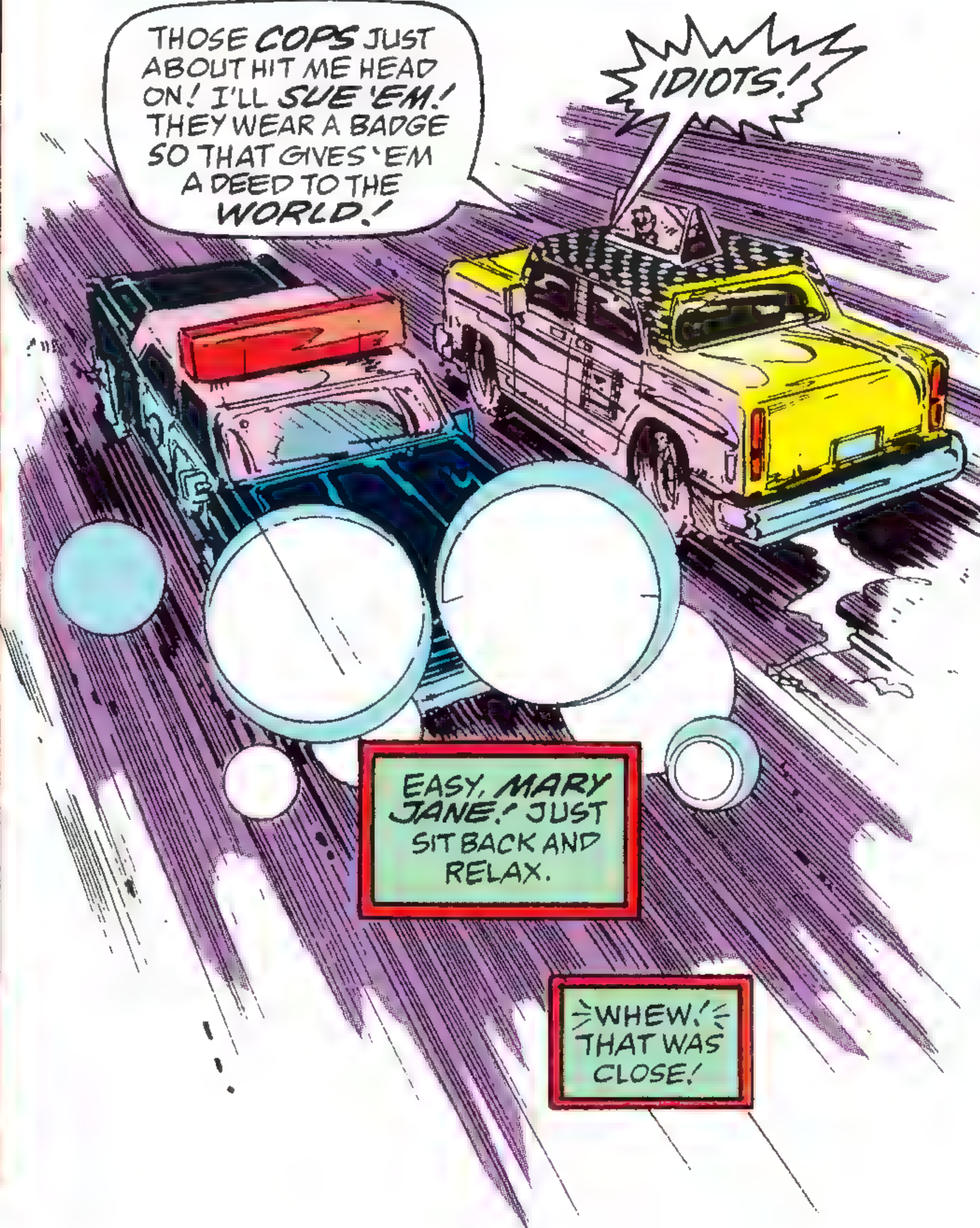
WHAT IN THE
WORLD...?



HANG
ON!

THOSE COPS JUST
ABOUT HIT ME HEAD
ON! I'LL SUE 'EM!
THEY WEAR A BADGE
SO THAT GIVES 'EM
A DEED TO THE
WORLD!

IDIOTS!



EASY, MARY
JANE. JUST
SIT BACK AND
RELAX.

WHEW!
THAT WAS
CLOSE!

SPIDER.

SPIDER.

LOCKED IN A SUPERNATURAL
TRANCE, THE WITCH NOW
FOCUSES ON--

-- THE
SPIDER!

THE GROTESQUE
CREATURE AT HER
SIDE CAN ONLY
DROOL IN ANTI-
CIPATION.

IN RETURN, SHE
HAS BEEN GRANTED
POWER.

DOOM

DOOM

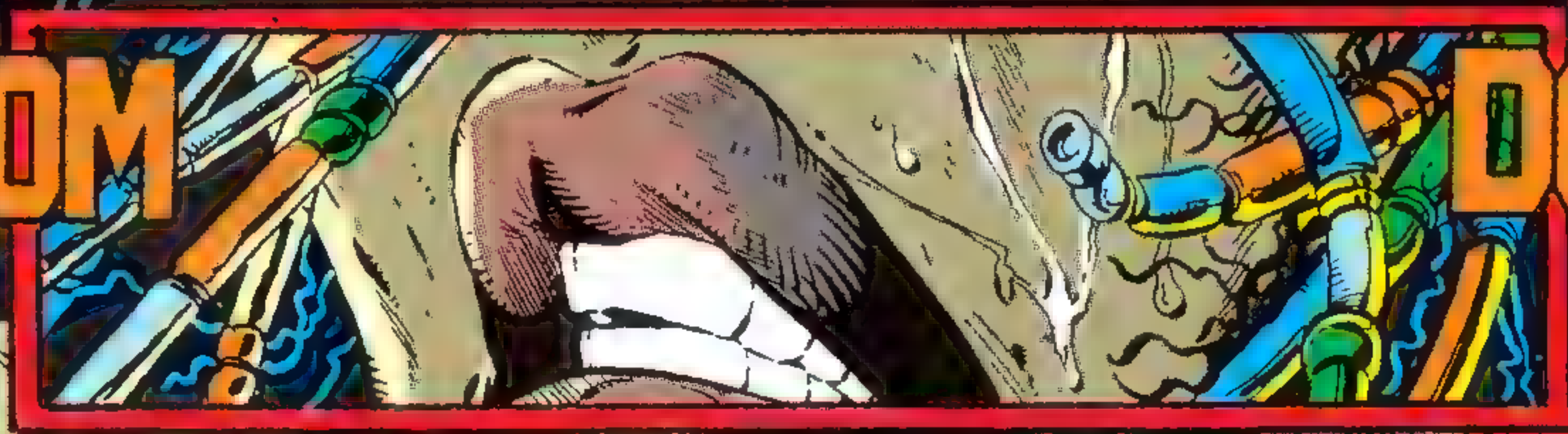
DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

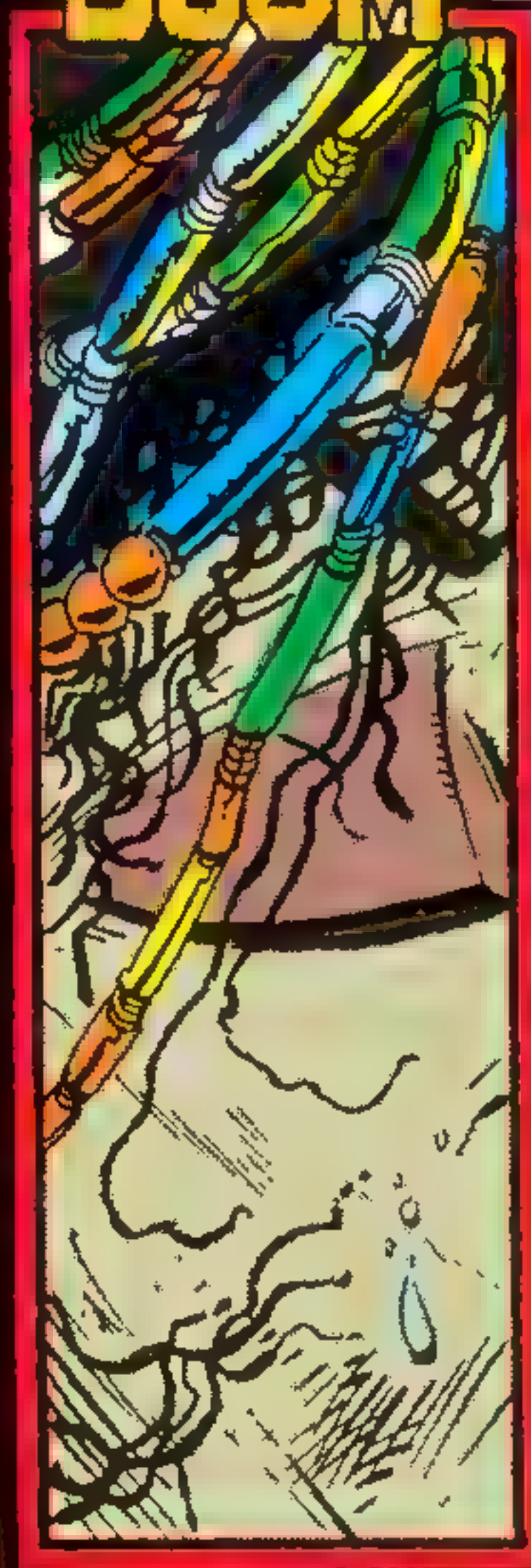
HER SOUL BELONGS
TO SOME UNGODLY
SPIRIT.

DOOM



DOOM

DOOM



SHE SAVORS
THE STRENGTH
IT GIVES HER.

THE MAGIC.

THE LUST FOR
BLOOD.

DOOM



DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

SHE KNOWS
HE IS ALIVE.
THE SPIDER
WILL NOT HIDE
MUCH LONGER.

DOOM

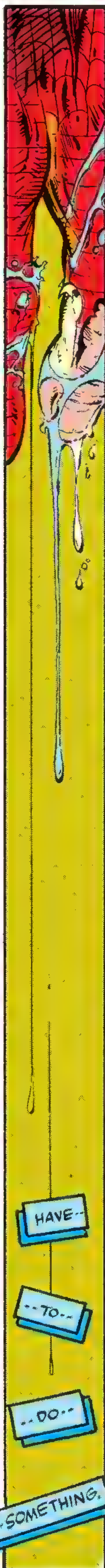
NOW SHE
MUST
CONCENTRATE
ON THE
POISON.

DOOM

IT IS HER
BEACON.

DOOM

IT IS HIS
DEATH!



HAVE--

--TO--

--DO--

--SOMETHING.



THERE!
HE IS--



--ABOVE.

DEATH
WIDENS ITS
JAWS!

A full-page comic book illustration showing Spider-Man in a state of extreme exhaustion and pain. He is lying in a chaotic pile of broken wooden planks and debris. His body is covered in numerous wounds, including deep lacerations and bruising. His eyes are closed, and his expression is one of agony. A large speech bubble from his head reads "ENOUGH!". Several smaller text boxes around him describe his condition: "ACHING.", "BLEEDING.", and "POISONED.". At the bottom of the page, a green, tentacle-like creature is visible, with a speech bubble stating "AGAIN, THE CREATURE DROOLS WITH ANTICIPATION.". The word "DOOM" is repeated four times in large, bold, white letters across the bottom. The background is a dark, textured grey, suggesting a confined space like a sewer or a collapsed building.

ENOUGH!

ACHING.

BLEEDING.

POISONED.

HE HAS HAD
ENOUGH.

IT IS TIME FOR
THE SPIDER
TO MEET EVIL
HEAD ON.

AGAIN, THE CREATURE
DROOLS WITH ANTICIPATION.

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

THE SPIDER
HAS BECOME
UNGLUED.

RACKED
WITH PAIN,
POISON
EATING HIS
MIND.

HE FEELS HIS LIFE
EBBING AWAY. BUT
BEFORE HE GOES
HE MUST KNOW--

WHY?!

THE CREATURE
ATTACKS WITH
SAVAGE FORCE.

IT, TOO, HAS
BECOME
UNGLUED.

FRENZIED.

OBSESSED.


DOOM

INSANE.

DOOM

IT HAS BEEN
FAR TOO LONG
SINCE ITS
LAST KILL.

DOOM

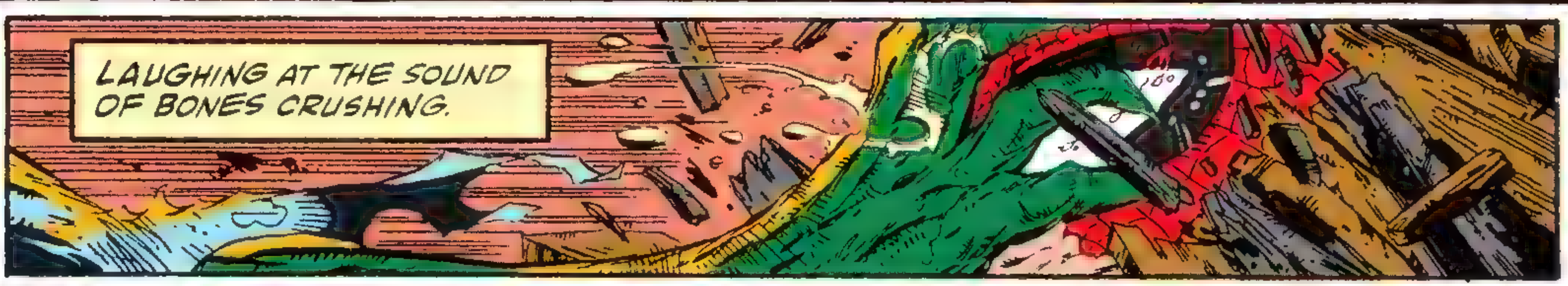


IT IS TIME TO
FEAST.



IN THE DISTANCE,
THE WITCH CACKLES.

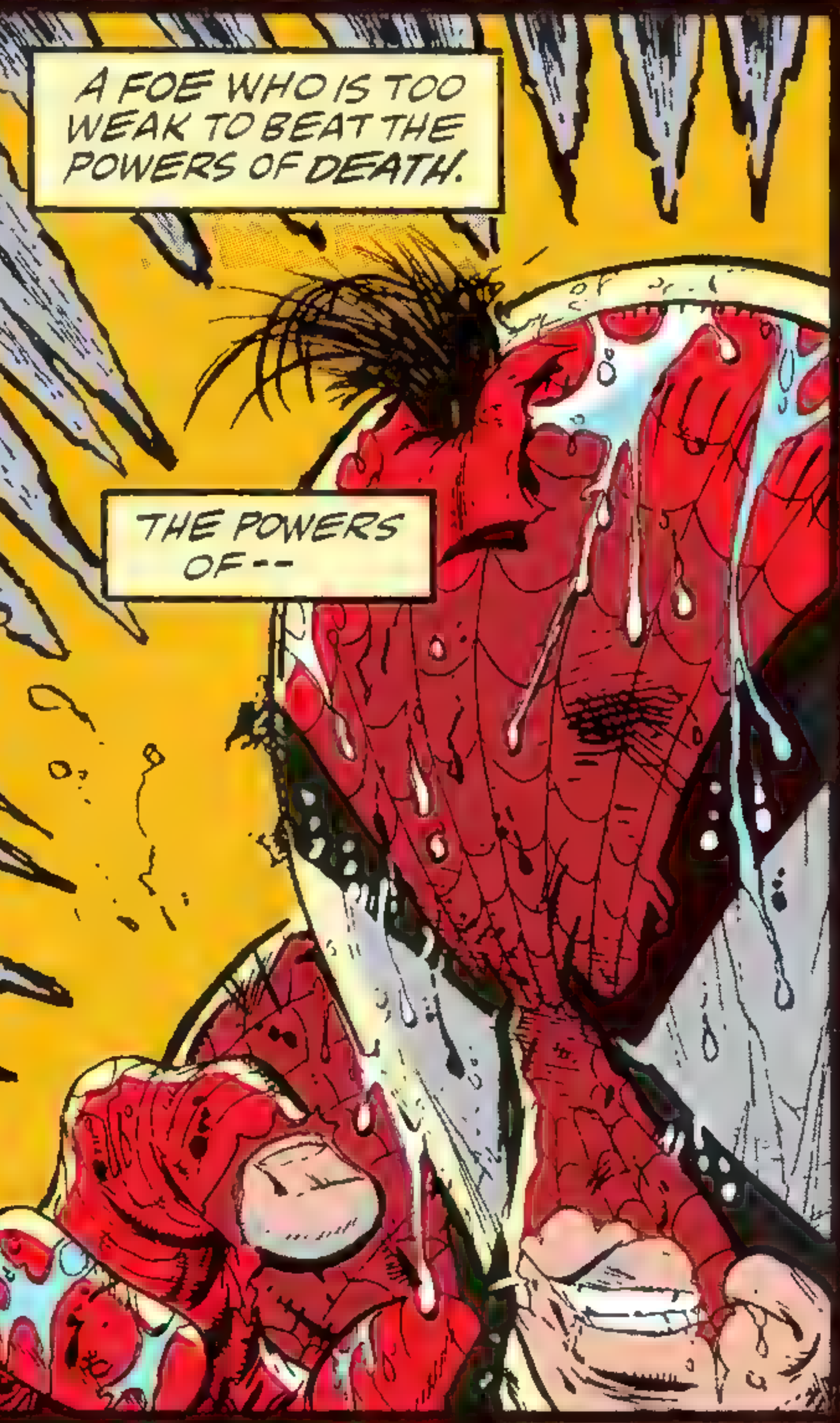
TIME TO RIP THE
LEGS OFF THE SPIDER
ONE BY ONE.



LAUGHING AT THE SOUND
OF BONES CRUSHING.



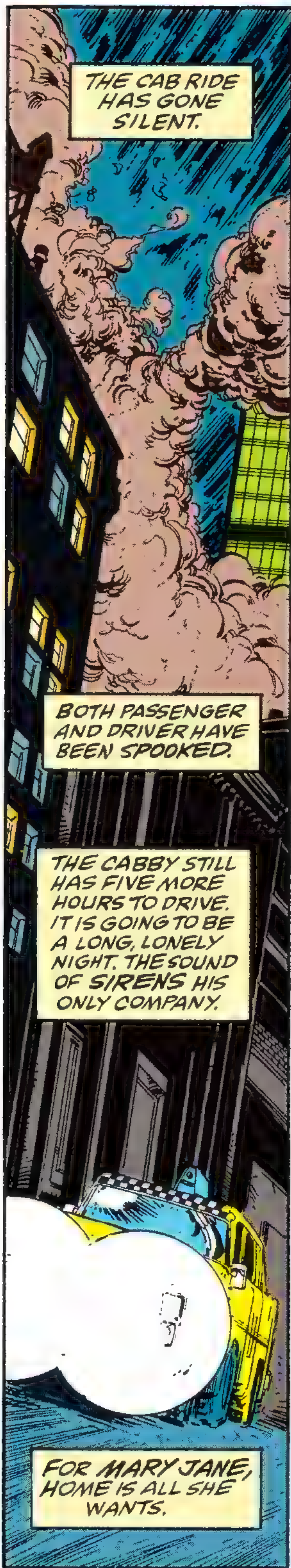
THE SPIDER IS
PATHETIC.



A FOE WHO IS TOO
WEAK TO BEAT THE
POWERS OF DEATH.

THE POWERS
OF --

---THE
VOODOO.

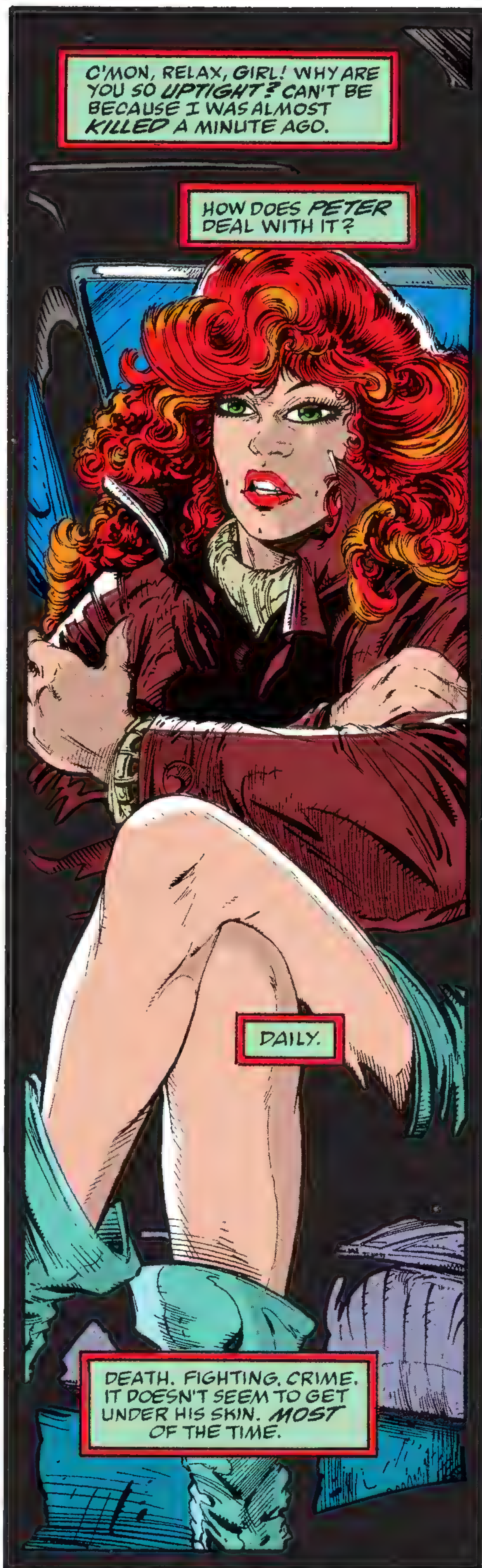


THE CAB RIDE
HAS GONE
SILENT.

BOTH PASSENGER
AND DRIVER HAVE
BEEN SPOOKED.

THE CABBY STILL
HAS FIVE MORE
HOURS TO DRIVE.
IT IS GOING TO BE
A LONG, LONELY
NIGHT. THE SOUND
OF SIRENS HIS
ONLY COMPANY.

FOR MARY JANE,
HOME IS ALL SHE
WANTS.

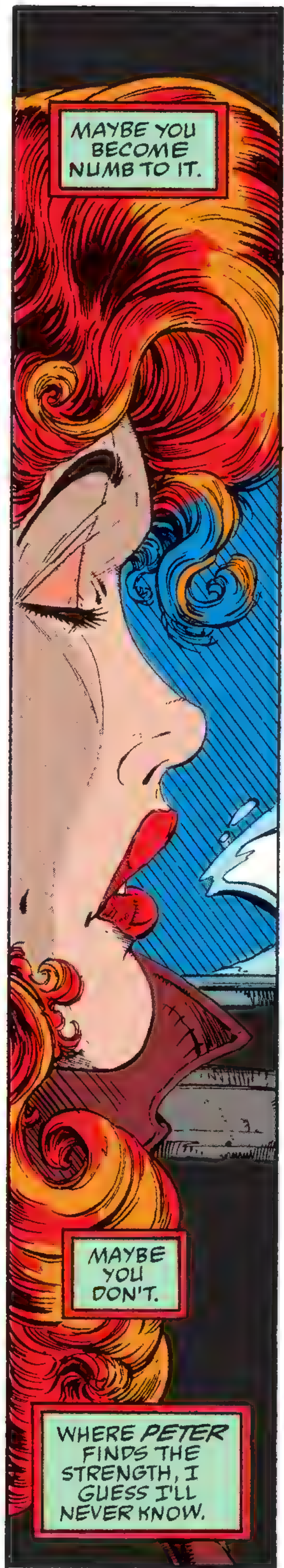


C'MON, RELAX, GIRL! WHY ARE
YOU SO UPTIGHT? CAN'T BE
BECAUSE I WAS ALMOST
KILLED A MINUTE AGO.

HOW DOES PETER
DEAL WITH IT?

DAILY.

DEATH. FIGHTING. CRIME.
IT DOESN'T SEEM TO GET
UNDER HIS SKIN. MOST
OF THE TIME.



MAYBE YOU
BECOME
NUMB TO IT.

MAYBE
YOU
DON'T.

WHERE PETER
FINDS THE
STRENGTH, I
GUESS I'LL
NEVER KNOW.



NO!

YET AGAIN,
THE MONSTER
IS TO BE
DENIED.

THE MONSTER
HAS GONE
THROUGH
ITS OWN
TORMENT
THIS NIGHT.

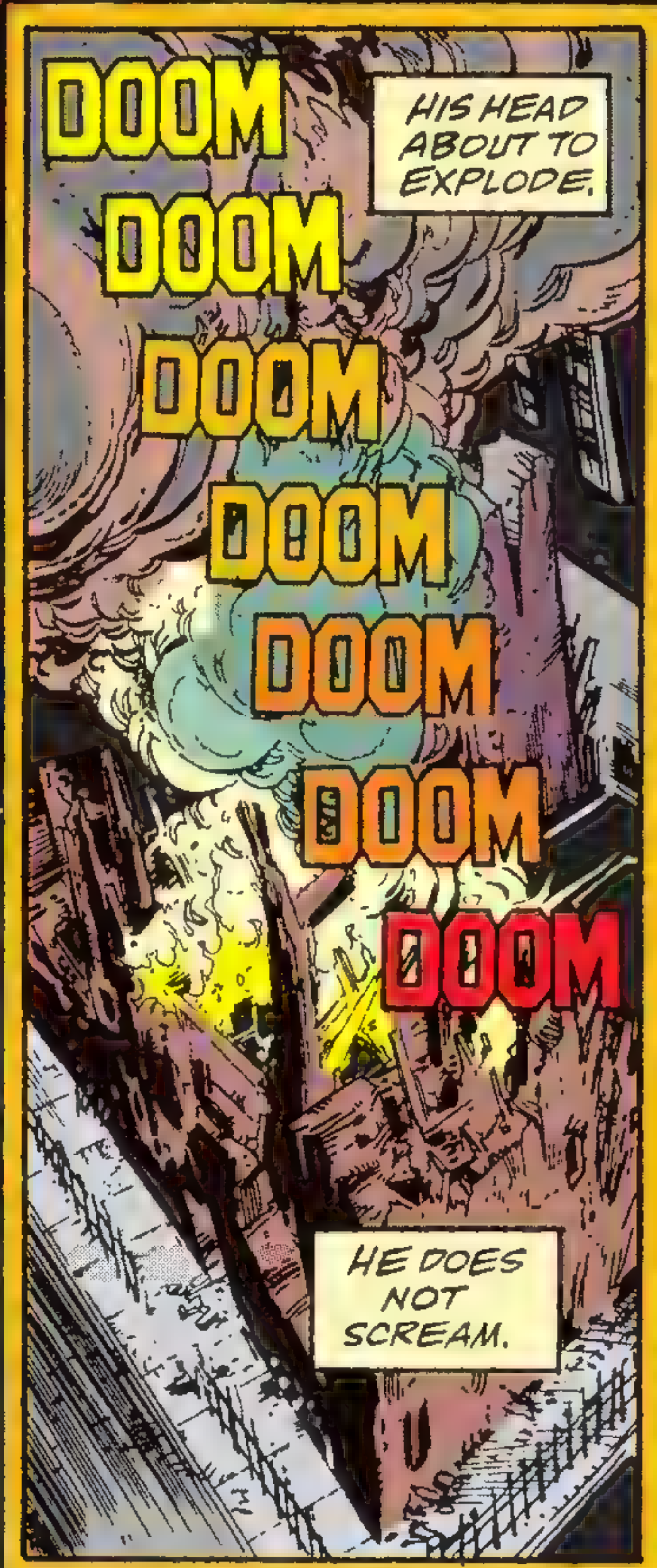


SOMETHING IS WRONG,
MY PET. THE POISON SHOULD
HAVE KILLED HIM BY NOW.

IT IS TIME TO
SPEED UP THE
PROCESS.

LOW MUMBLINGS
ESCAPE HER LIPS,
POWER IS PUT
INTO PLAY.

THE SPIDER'S
GUTS ARE ABOUT
TO BURST.



DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

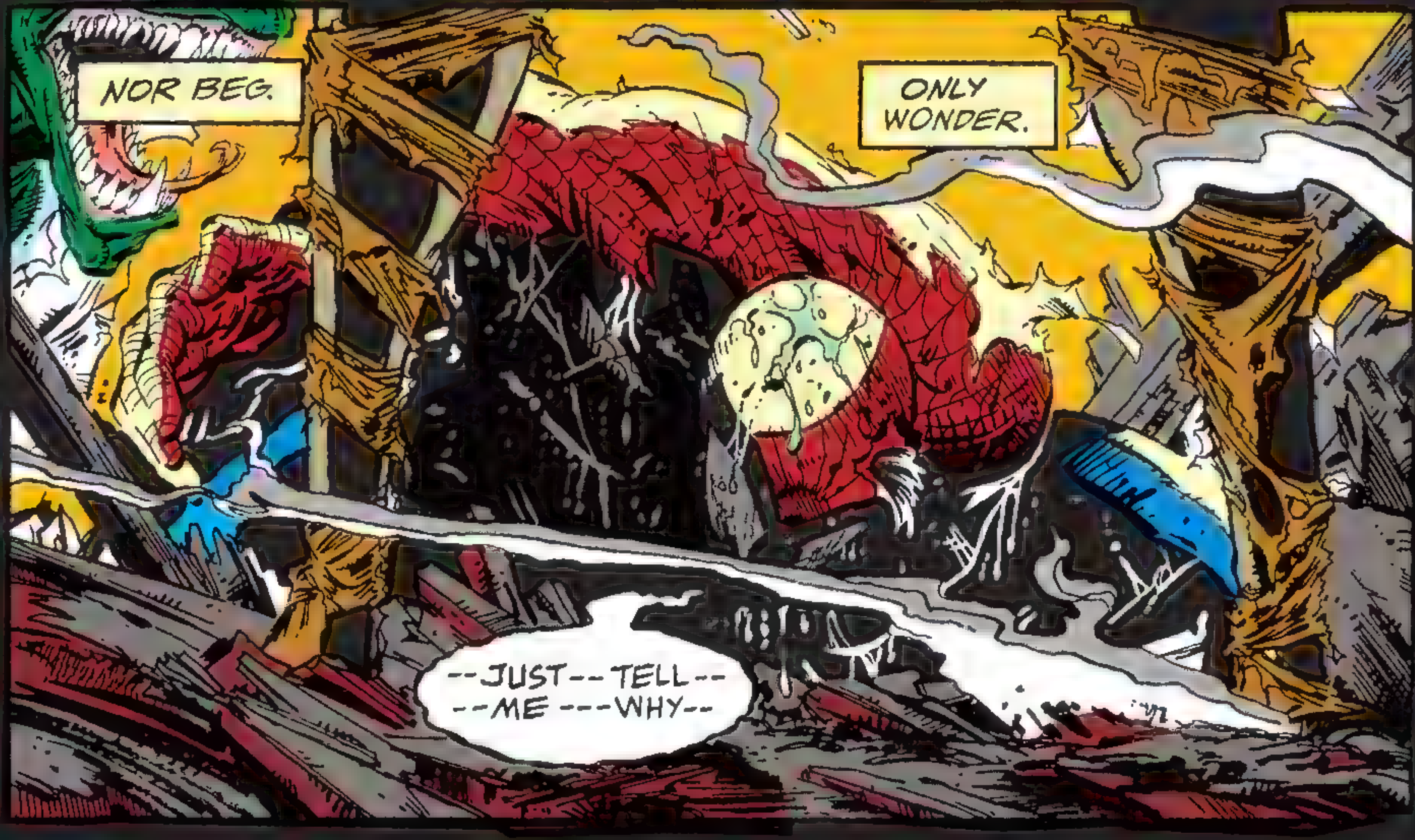
DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

DOOM

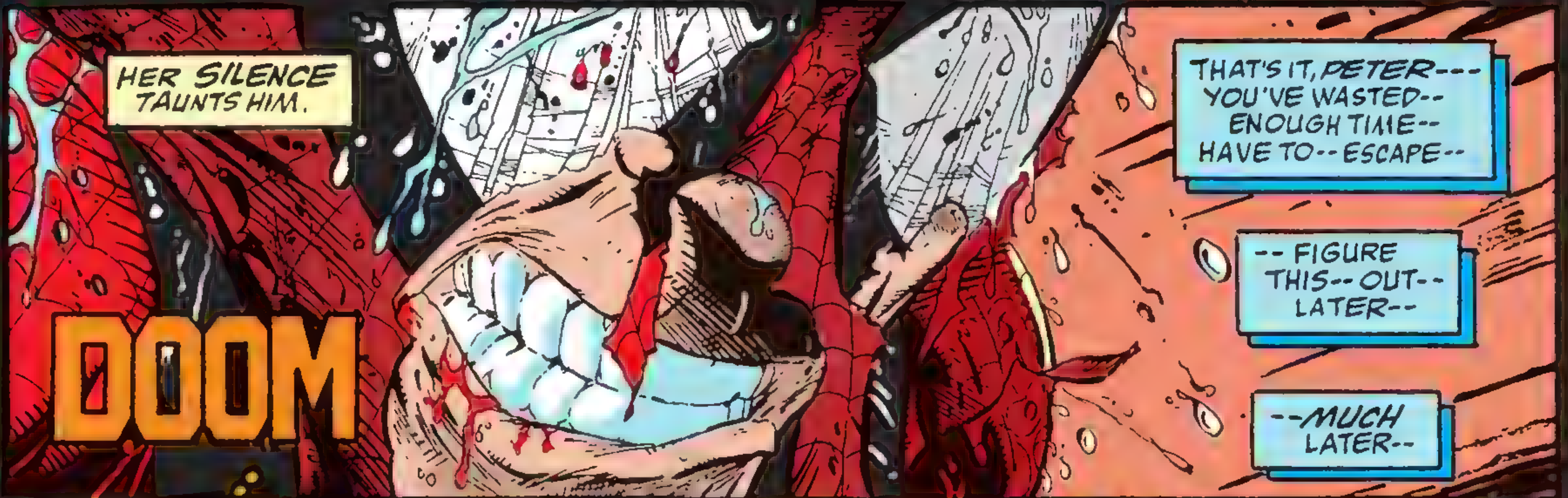
HE DOES
NOT
SCREAM.



NOR BEG.

ONLY
WONDER.

---JUST---TELL---
---ME---WHY---



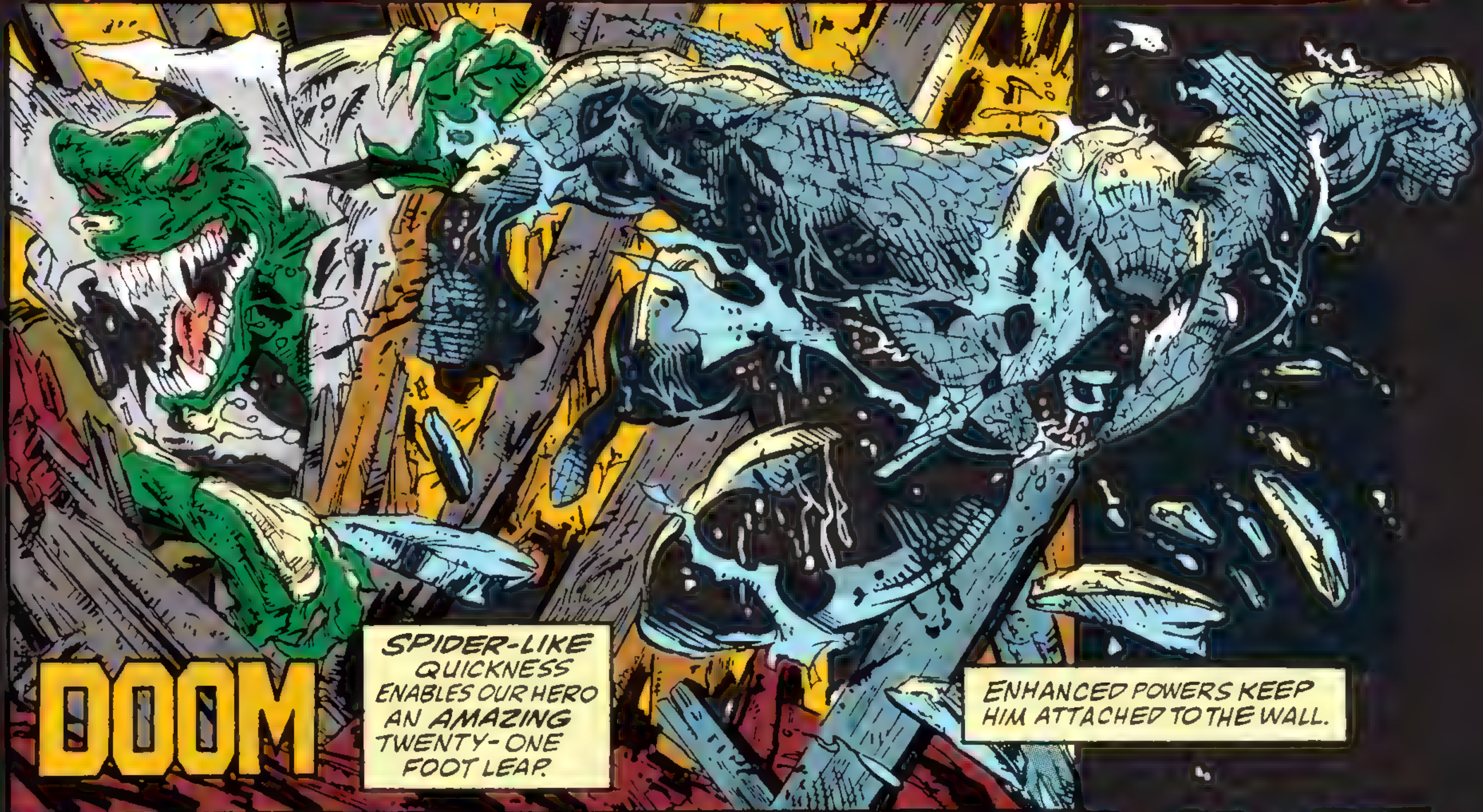
HER SILENCE
TAUNTS HIM.

THAT'S IT, PETER---
YOU'VE WASTED--
ENOUGH TIME--
HAVE TO-- ESCAPE--

-- FIGURE
THIS-- OUT--
LATER--

--MUCH
LATER--

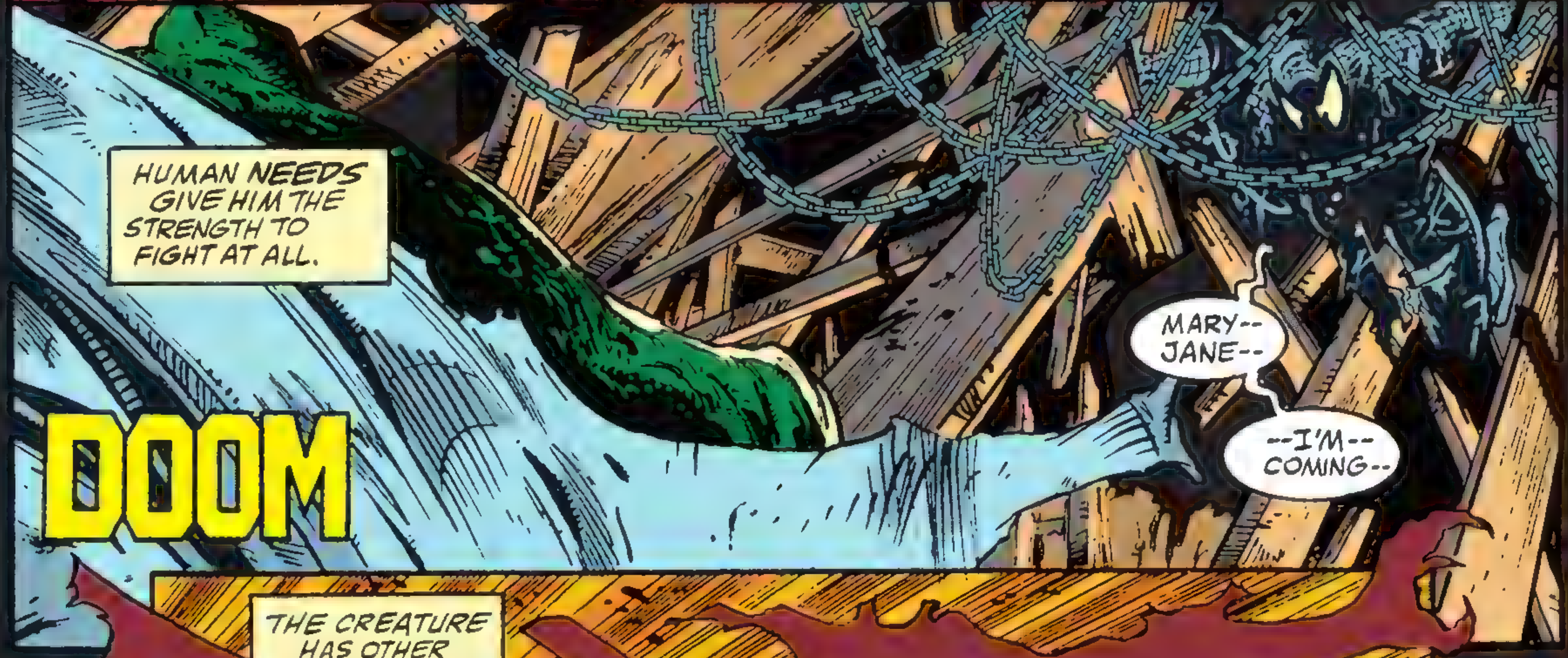
DOOM



DOOM

SPIDER-LIKE
QUICKNESS
ENABLES OUR HERO
AN AMAZING
TWENTY-ONE
FOOT LEAP.

ENHANCED POWERS KEEP
HIM ATTACHED TO THE WALL.



HUMAN NEEDS
GIVE HIM THE
STRENGTH TO
FIGHT AT ALL.

DOOM

MARY--
JANE--

--I'M--
COMING--

THE CREATURE
HAS OTHER
PLANS.

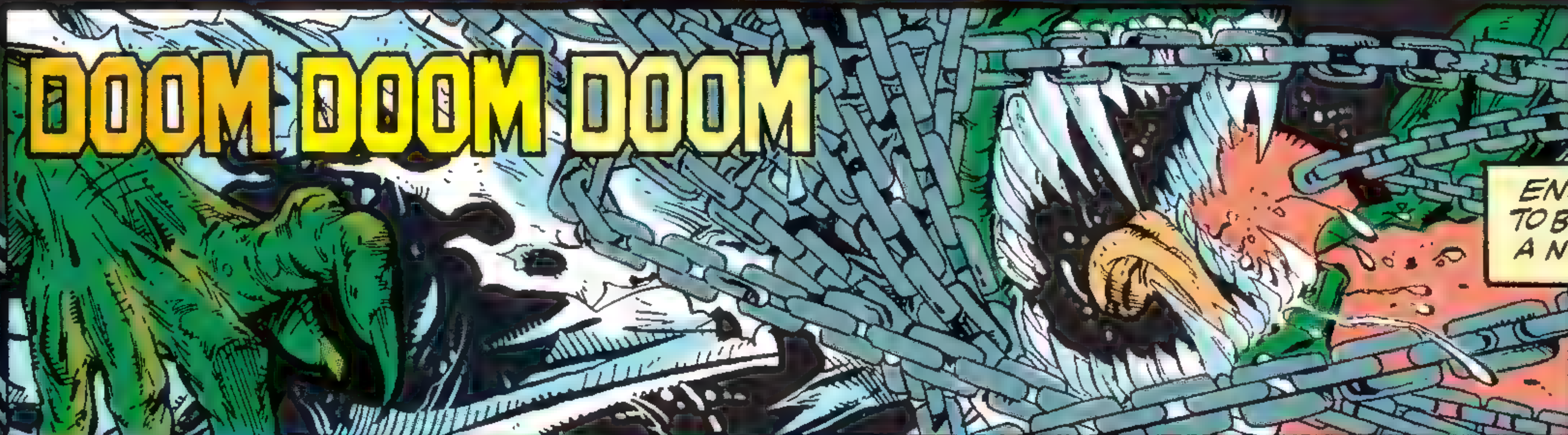
DOOM

HE HURLS THE CHAINS WITH EVERY OUNCE OF POWER HE HAS LEFT.



DOOM DOOM DOOM

ENOUGH TO BREAK A NECK.



THE SPIDER IS WINNING.

THE CREATURE HAS BEEN DENIED ITS FINAL TIME.

ITS TORMENT IS OVER.



TIME NOW
TO BLUFF.

--GUESS--
WHO'S--
NEXT--

SIRENS.

LOTS AND LOTS
OF SIRENS.

THE FOUR
AND A HALF
MINUTES
HAVE
PASSED.

YOU, DEAR
INSECT, ARE
ABOUT TO
DIE!

HER VOICE,
THOUGH, HAS
BEEN
DROWNED
OUT.

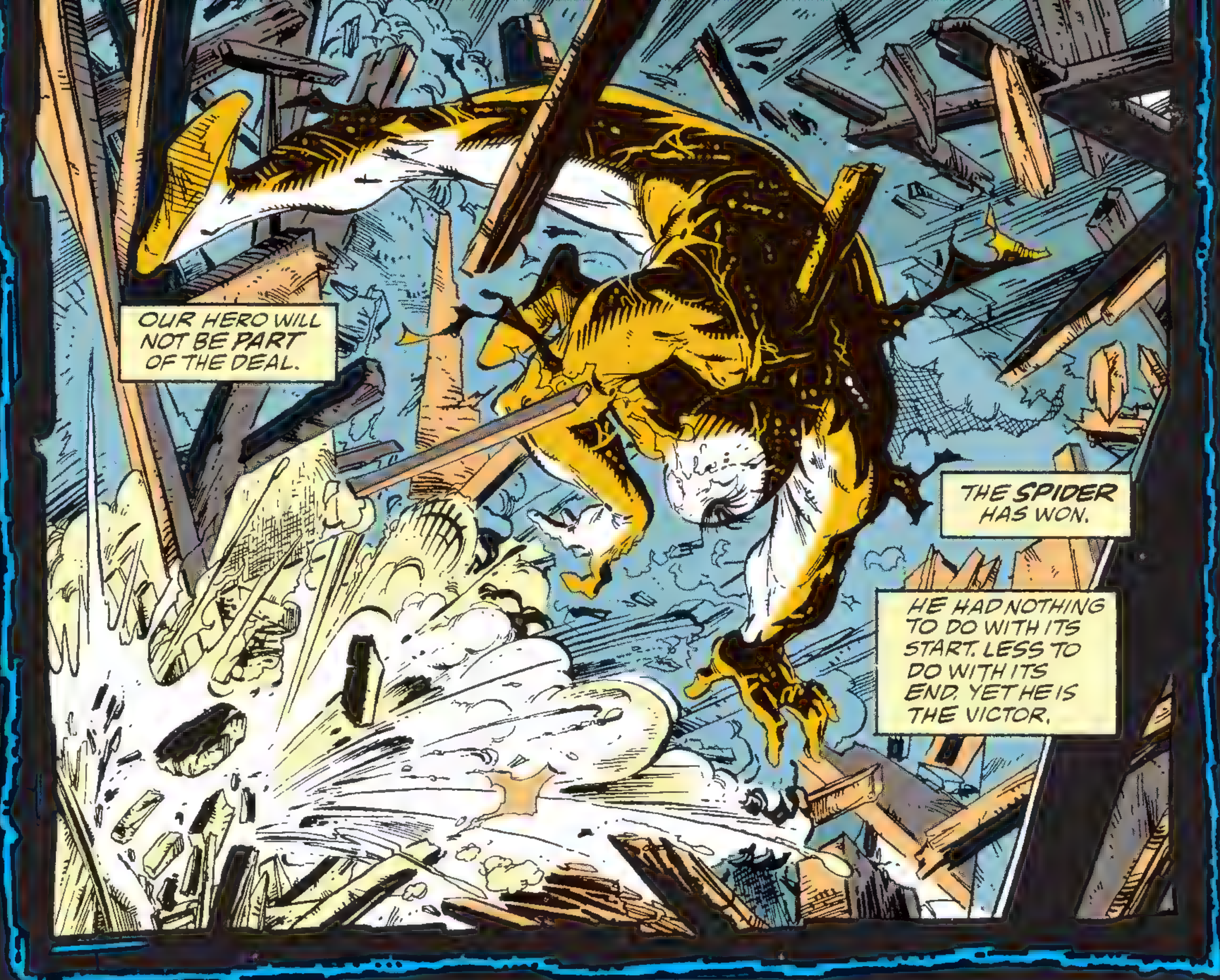
THE WITCH WILL NOT
TAKE ON AN ARMY.
THERE IS NO NEED.
SHE HAS AN INFINITE
AMOUNT OF
TOMORROWS.

PLENTY OF TIME TO
HUNT AND KILL HER
CHOSEN PREY.

WITH THE WAVE OF AN
ARM, EVERYTHING
ROCKETS TOWARD
HER. SHE IS
COLLAPSING THE
STRUCTURE.

ON HERSELF!

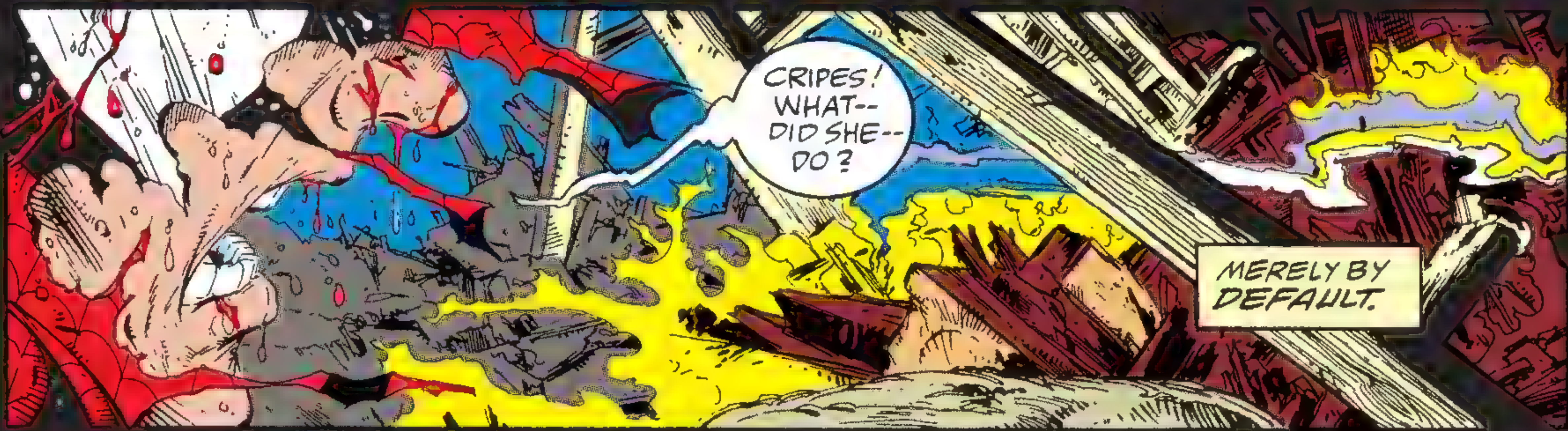
TEN TONS OF DESTRUCTION
BURY THE EVIL. THE SOUND
OF LAUGHTER ECHOES
INTO THE NIGHT.



OUR HERO WILL NOT BE PART OF THE DEAL.

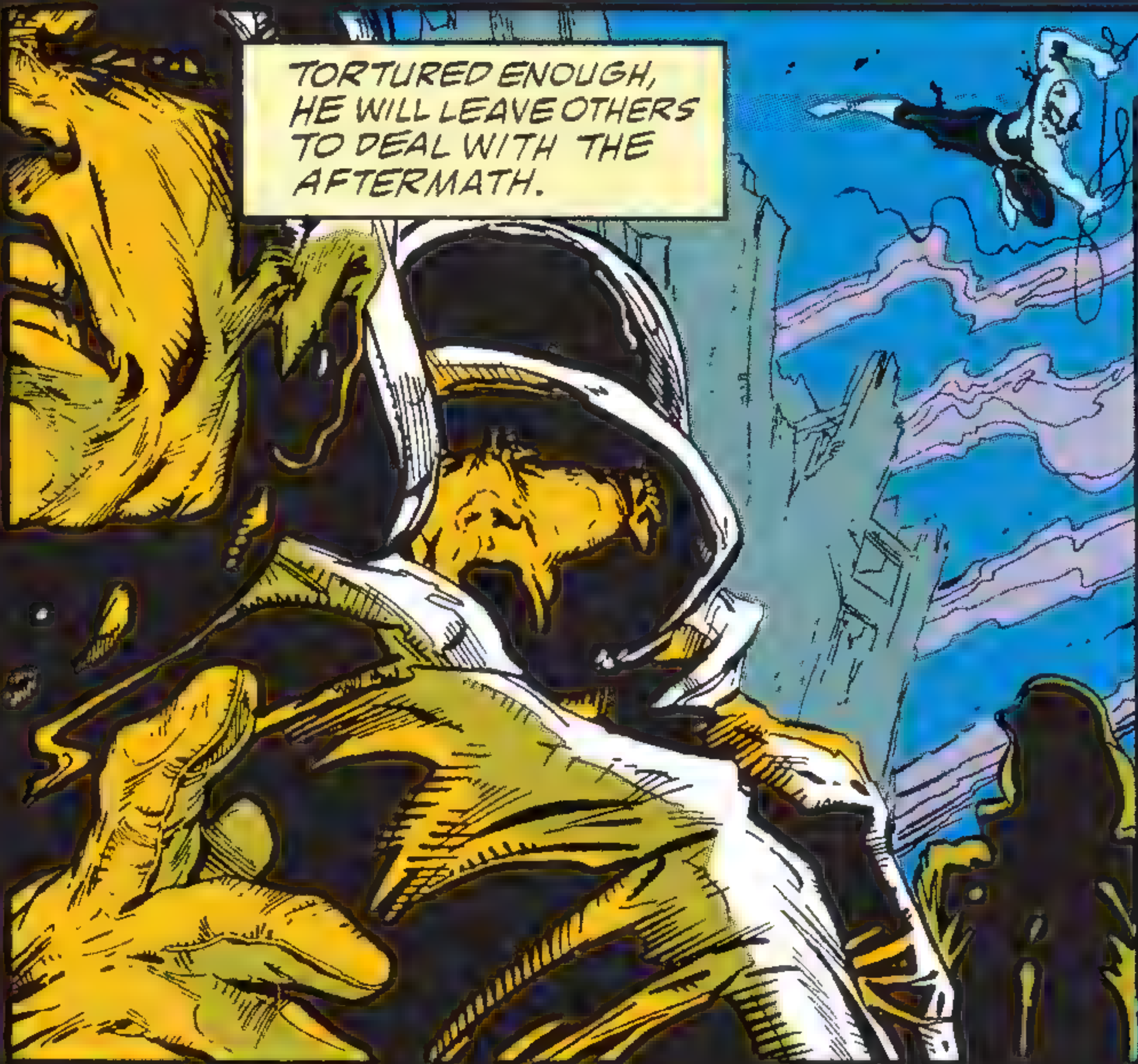
THE SPIDER HAS WON.

HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ITS START, LESS TO DO WITH ITS END, YET HE IS THE VICTOR.



CRIPES! WHAT-- DID SHE-- DO?

MERELY BY DEFAULT.

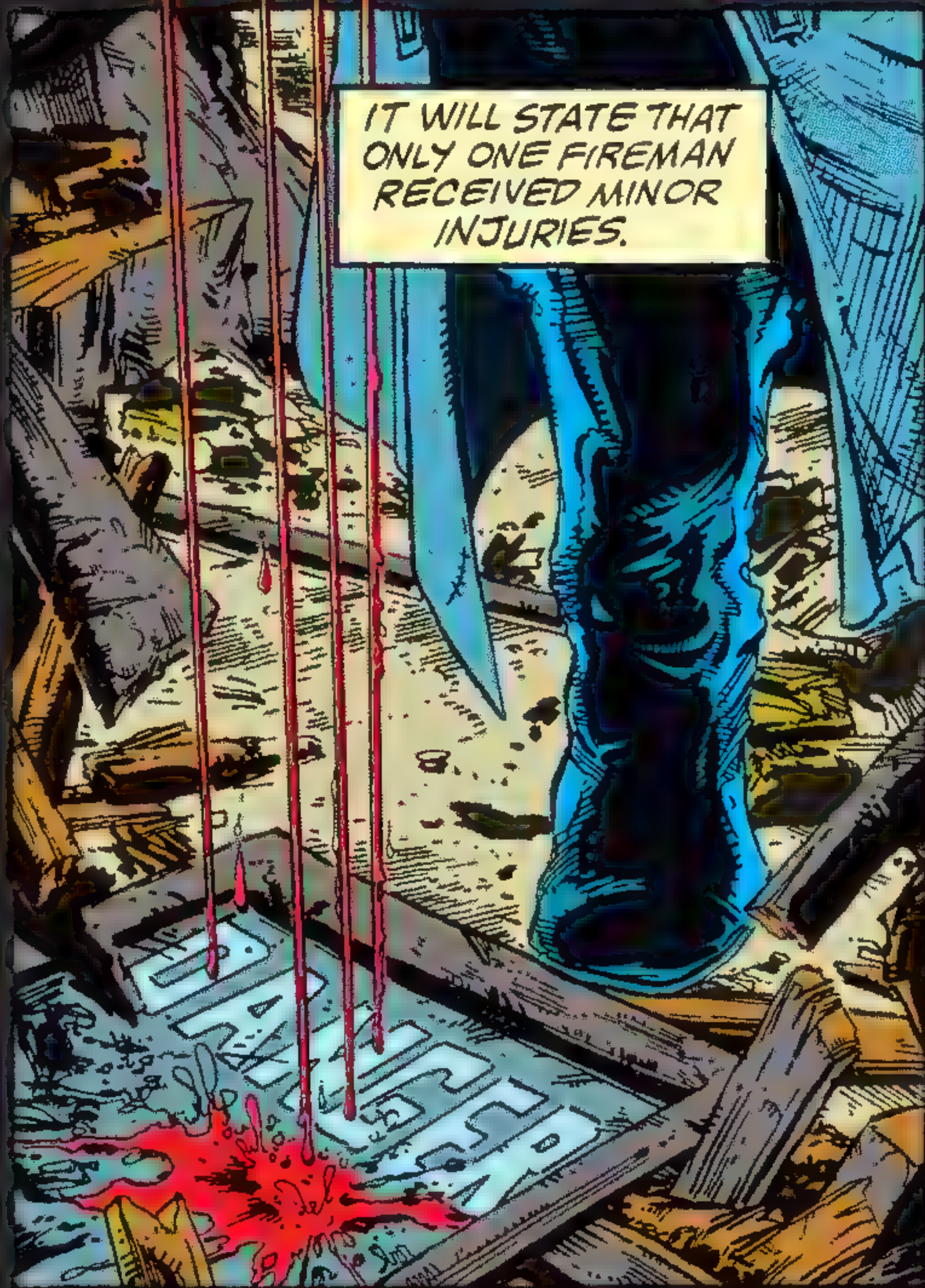


TORTURED ENOUGH, HE WILL LEAVE OTHERS TO DEAL WITH THE AFTERMATH.

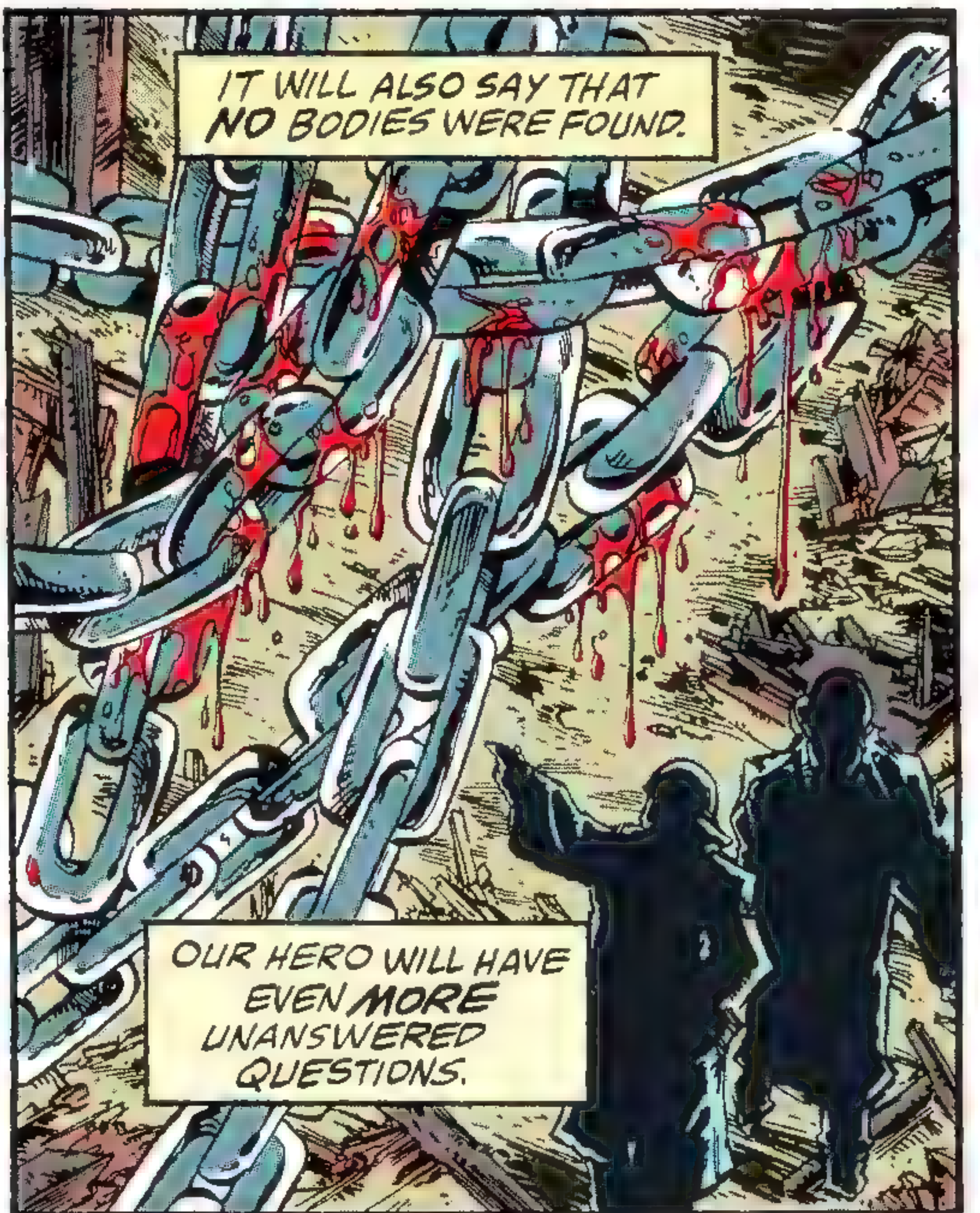


TOMORROW MORNING THE PAPER WILL TELL OF A MYSTERIOUS FIRE.

IT WILL GIVE A MONETARY VALUE TO PROPERTY DAMAGE.

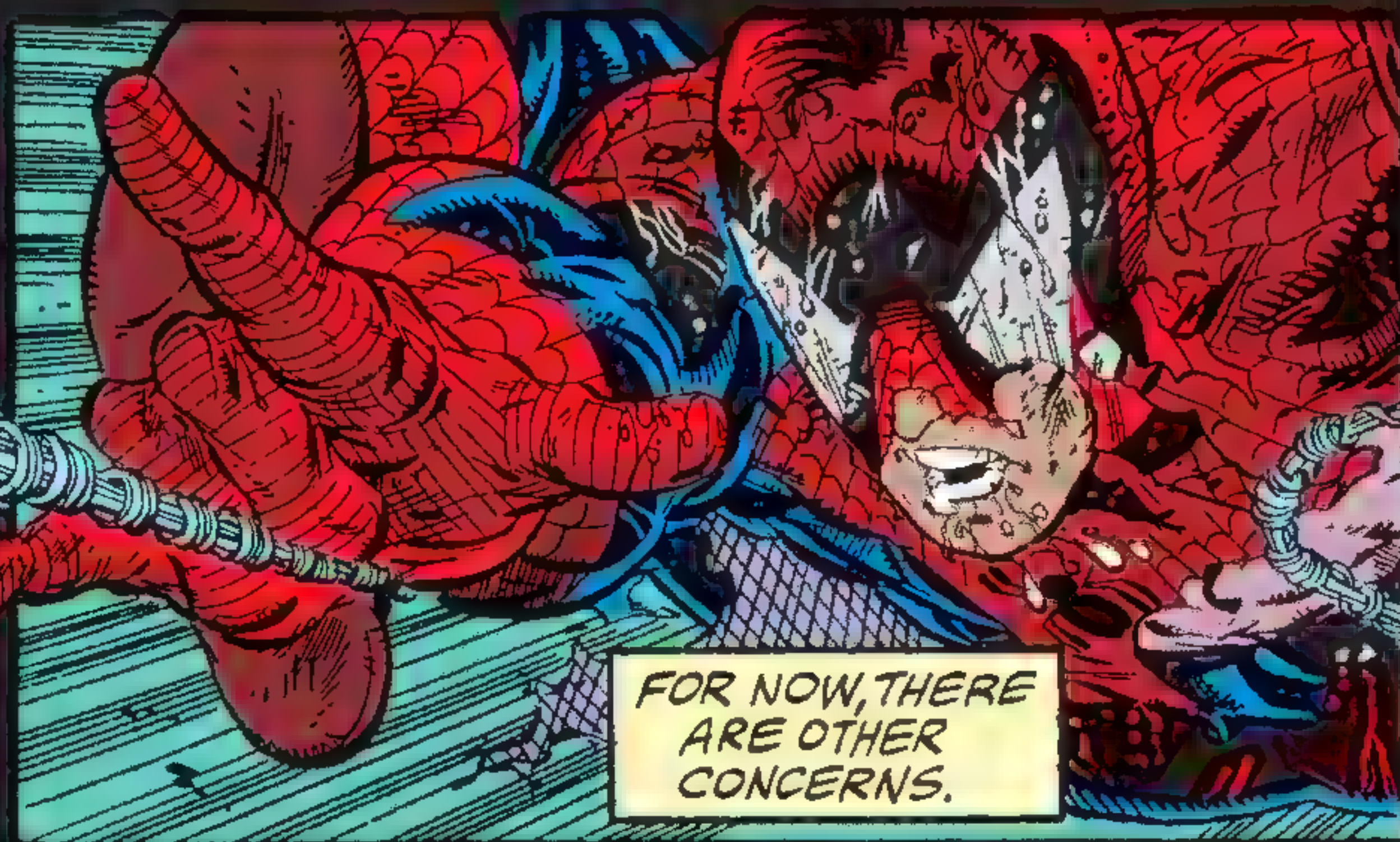


IT WILL STATE THAT
ONLY ONE FIREMAN
RECEIVED MINOR
INJURIES.

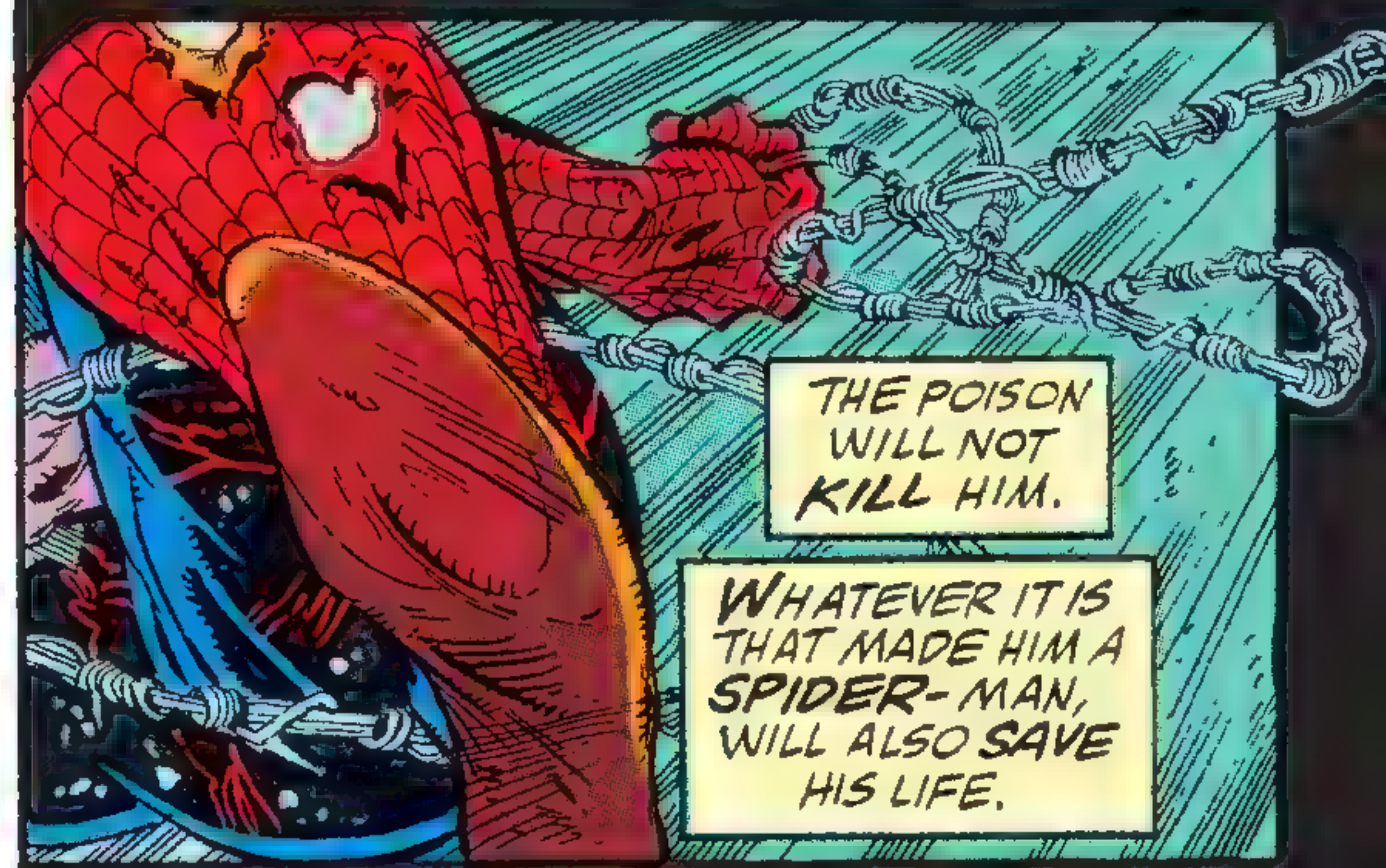


IT WILL ALSO SAY THAT
NO BODIES WERE FOUND.

OUR HERO WILL HAVE
EVEN MORE
UNANSWERED
QUESTIONS.

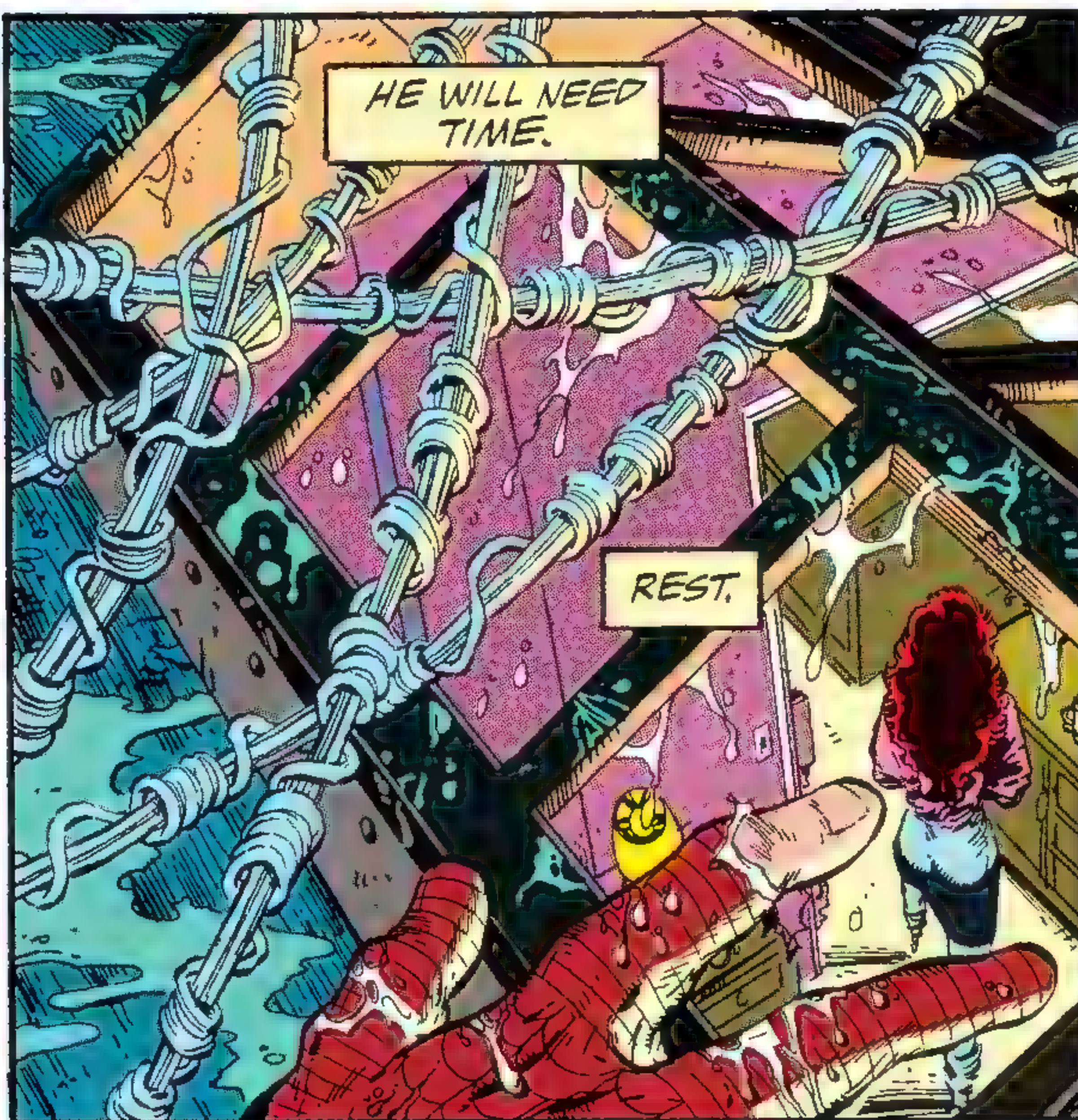


FOR NOW, THERE
ARE OTHER
CONCERNS.



THE POISON
WILL NOT
KILL HIM.

WHATEVER IT IS
THAT MADE HIM A
SPIDER-MAN,
WILL ALSO SAVE
HIS LIFE.




HE WILL NEED
TIME.

REST.



AND SO, THE SPIDER
HAS RETURNED TO
HIS WEB.


HONEY--
I'M--
HOME.



BUT IN THE DAYS
AHEAD IT IS NOT
THE PHYSICAL
PAIN THAT WILL
CRIPPLE
YOU.


YOU WILL
HEAL.

IT IS THE FACT
THAT BEING A
HERO MAKES
YOU A TARGET.
UNPROVOKED
ATTACKS THAT
MAKE NO
SENSE, THAT
GIVE NO
ANSWERS.




FOR, WITHOUT
REASON, THE
MIND CAN
ONLY
IMAGINE.

SPECULATIONS
THAT CAN
DRIVE YOU
CRAZY.



THAT WILL
BE YOUR
TORMENT.

YET
SOMEHOW,
YOU MUST
SEEK--



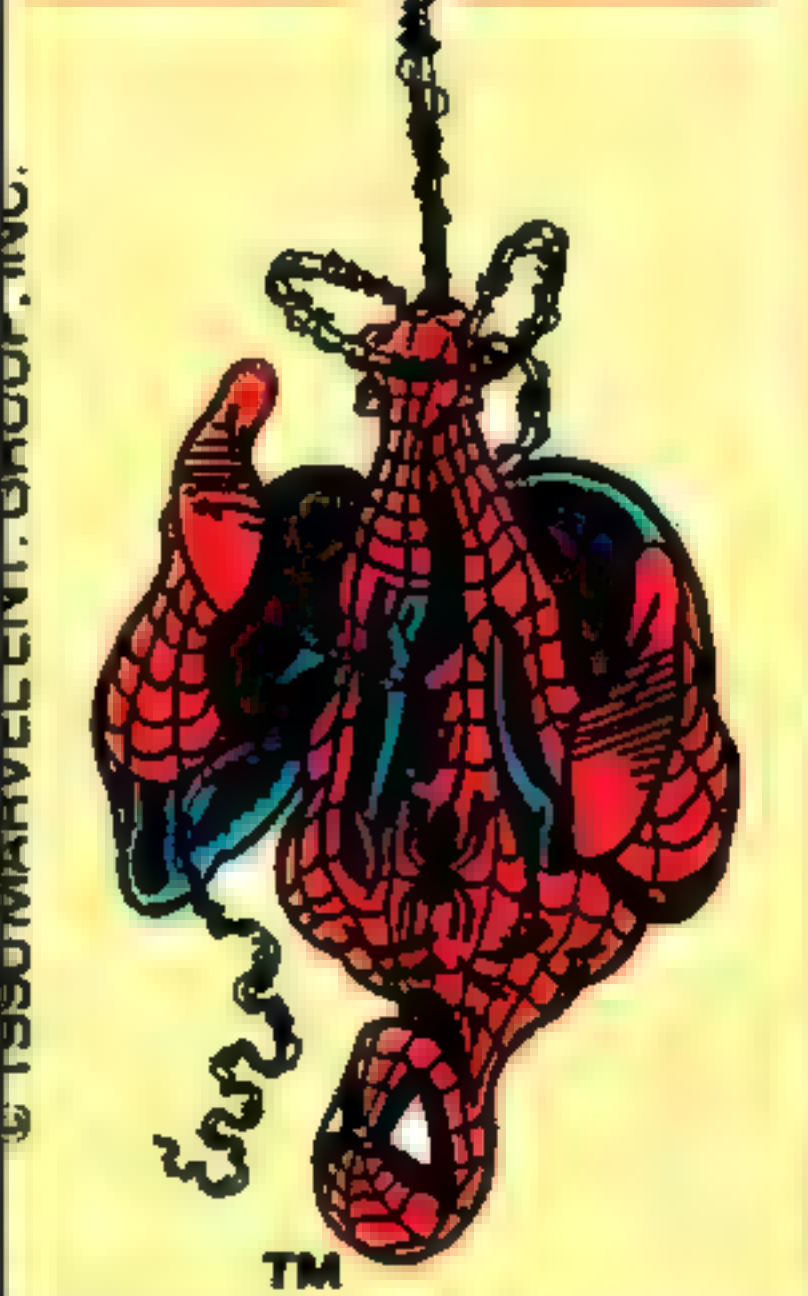
--TO RISE
ABOVE
IT ALL!

NEXT
ISSUE:

THE **HOBGOBLIN!**

DOOM

MARVEL
COMICS



\$1.75 US
\$2.25 CAN
6
JAN
UK 85p

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

CBG FAN AWARDS
WINNER
FAVORITE
CHARACTER

CBG FAN AWARDS
WINNER
FAVORITE
PENCILER

CBG FAN AWARDS
WINNER
FAVORITE
COVER ARTIST

CBG FAN AWARDS
WINNER
FAVORITE
LETTERER

SPIDER-MAN

PART 1 OF 2

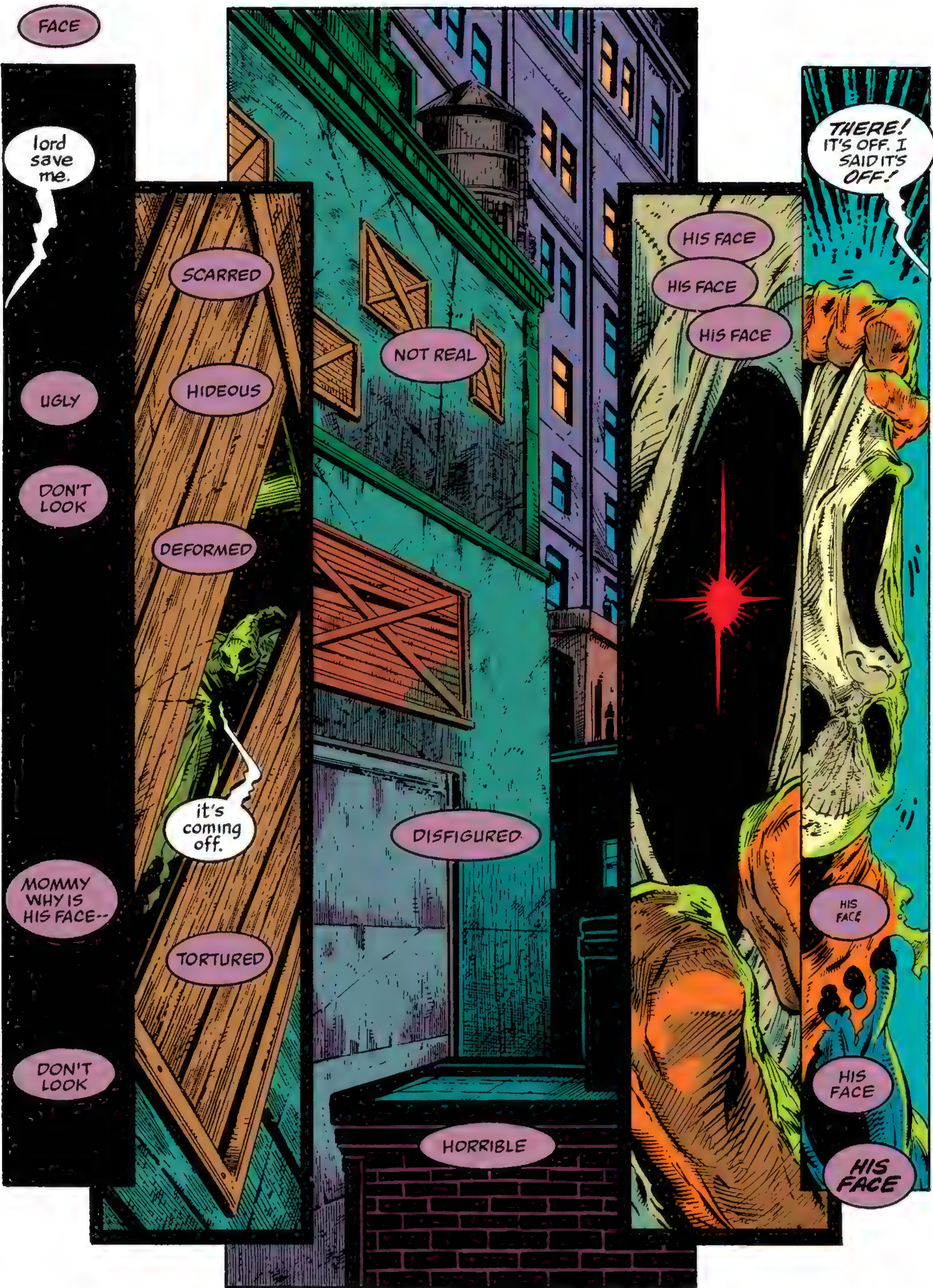
FACE IT, SPIDEY-- AWARDS
DON'T MEAN #@%!! AGAINST
THE HOBGOBLIN!



McFARLANE



AND WAIT TILL YOU SEE OUR
**SURPRISE
GUEST-STAR!**



FACE

lord
save
me.

SCARRED

UGLY

DON'T
LOOK

HIDEOUS

DEFORMED

it's
coming
off.

MOMMY
WHY IS
HIS FACE--

TORTURED

DON'T
LOOK

NOT REAL

DISFIGURED

HORRIBLE

HIS FACE

HIS FACE

HIS FACE

THERE!
IT'S OFF. I
SAID IT'S
OFF!

HIS
FACE

HIS
FACE

HIS
FACE

HIS FACE!

ONE BY ONE I'VE REMOVED YOU. EACH ONE SCREAMING YOUR LIES. THOSE ON THE OUTSIDE REMAIN PURE.

NOW STOP! STOP IT, ALL OF YOU. CAN'T YOU SEE IT'S OFF. NOW SHUT UP!! OR I SHALL MAKE YOU SUFFER EVEN MORE.

PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME LOOK.

DO I NEED TO REMOVE MORE OF YOU? I TOOK YOU FROM THE STREETS TO TEACH YOU NOT TO MOCK ME. TO ELIMINATE YOUR LIES.

BUT IF THEY SLIP I SHALL DEAL WITH THEIR BLASPHEMY. THE PAIN AND PUNISHMENT WILL BE MUCH SWEETER THAN YOURS.

HIS FACE.

MY GOD!!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: ARTIST TODD McFARLANE / RICK PARKER LETTERS / JIM SALICRUP EDITOR
WRITER GREGORY WRIGHT COLORS / TOM DeFALCO CHIEF

Part 1

MASQUES



QUIET!
WHY MUST YOU
TEST ME?!

I COULD KILL YOU ALL
IN A SECOND, YET I CHOOSE
TO FORGIVE YOU. ALL I
WANT IN RETURN IS YOUR
SILENCE.

DEFORMED

WHAT IS WRONG
WITH YOU? WHY DO
YOU CONTINUE TO
CURSE ME?

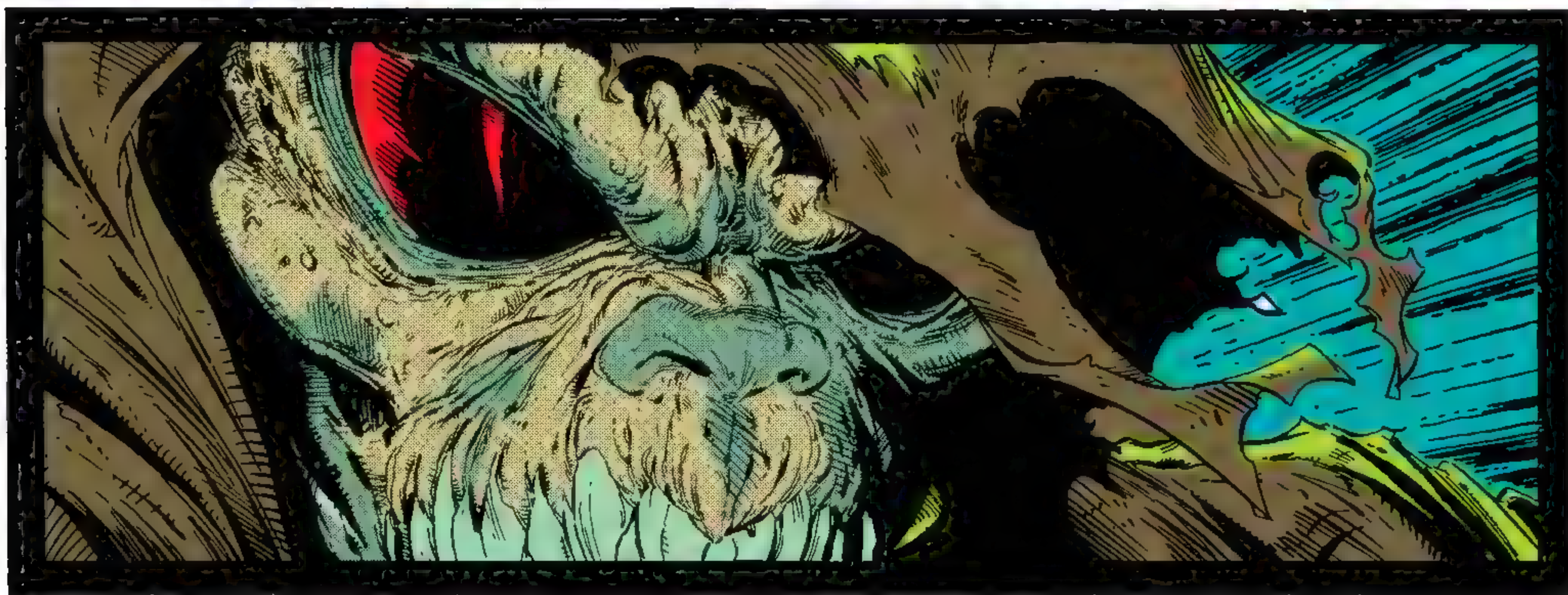


WE HAVEN'T
SAID A WORD.

mom,

LIAR!
THEN LOOK
AND TELL ME
WHAT YOU
SEE.

NO. PLEASE
I CAN'T--





YOU MAKE
ME SICK.

DON'T---
HURT MY
CHILD.

CAN'T YOU SEE
THE DEVIL IS
CONTROLLING YOU,
BLINDING YOU TO
THE TRUTH. AND
YOU'RE TOO WEAK
TO RESIST HIM.

THAT'S
WHY I MUST
ELIMINATE
YOUR KIND--
AND YOUR
LIES.

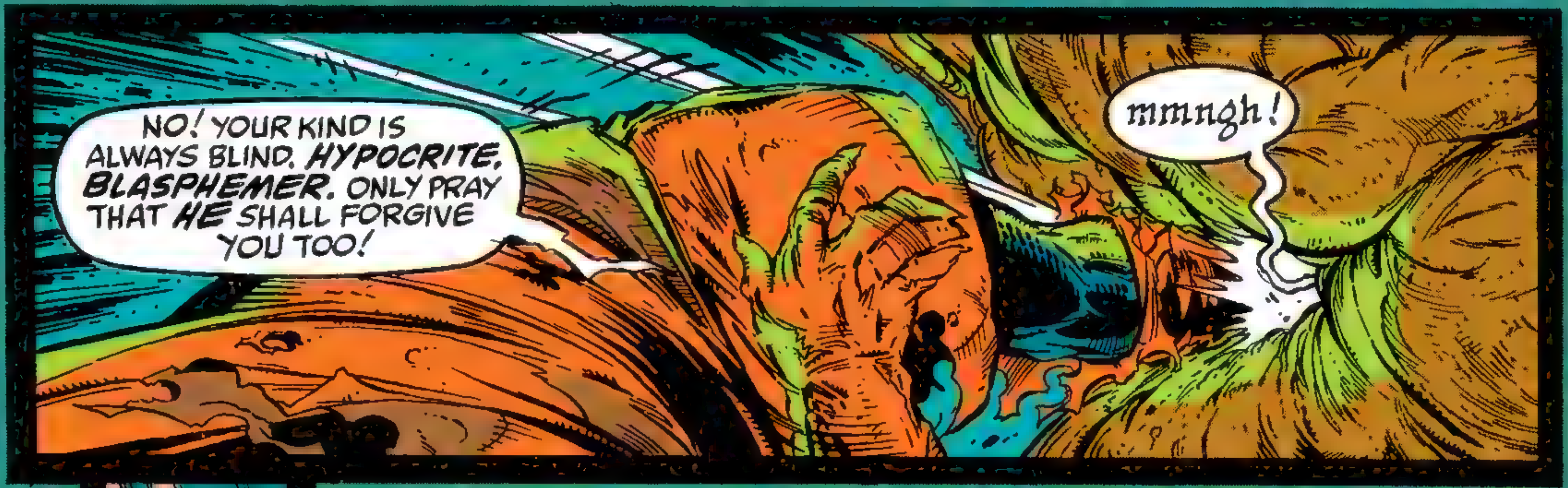
I HAVEN'T
SAID... A...
WORD.

SUCH
A PITY---

'CAUSE YOU
HAD THE LOOKS
OF AN ANGEL.

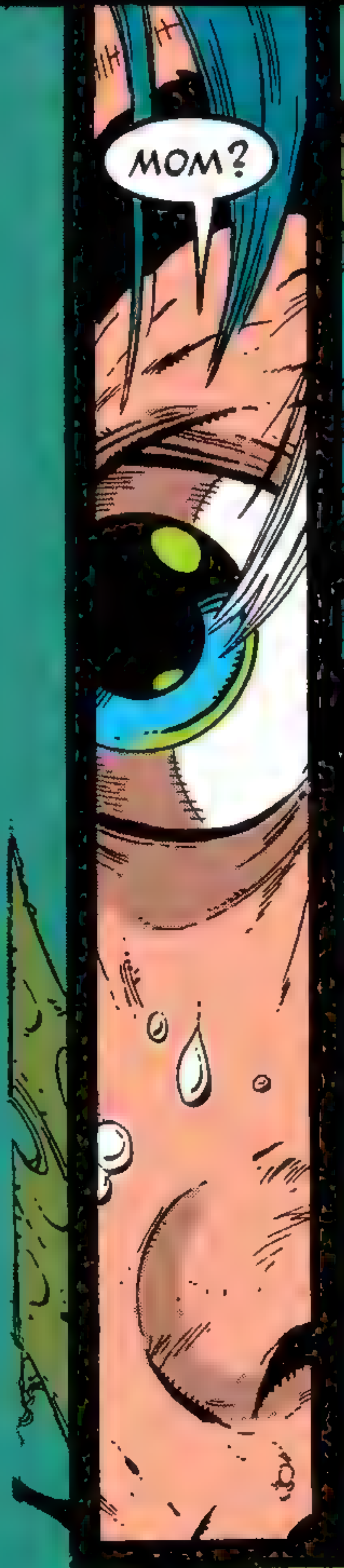
OH? NOW YOU
CAN LOOK ME IN
THE FACE.

DO YOU
SEE THE
TRUTH?!

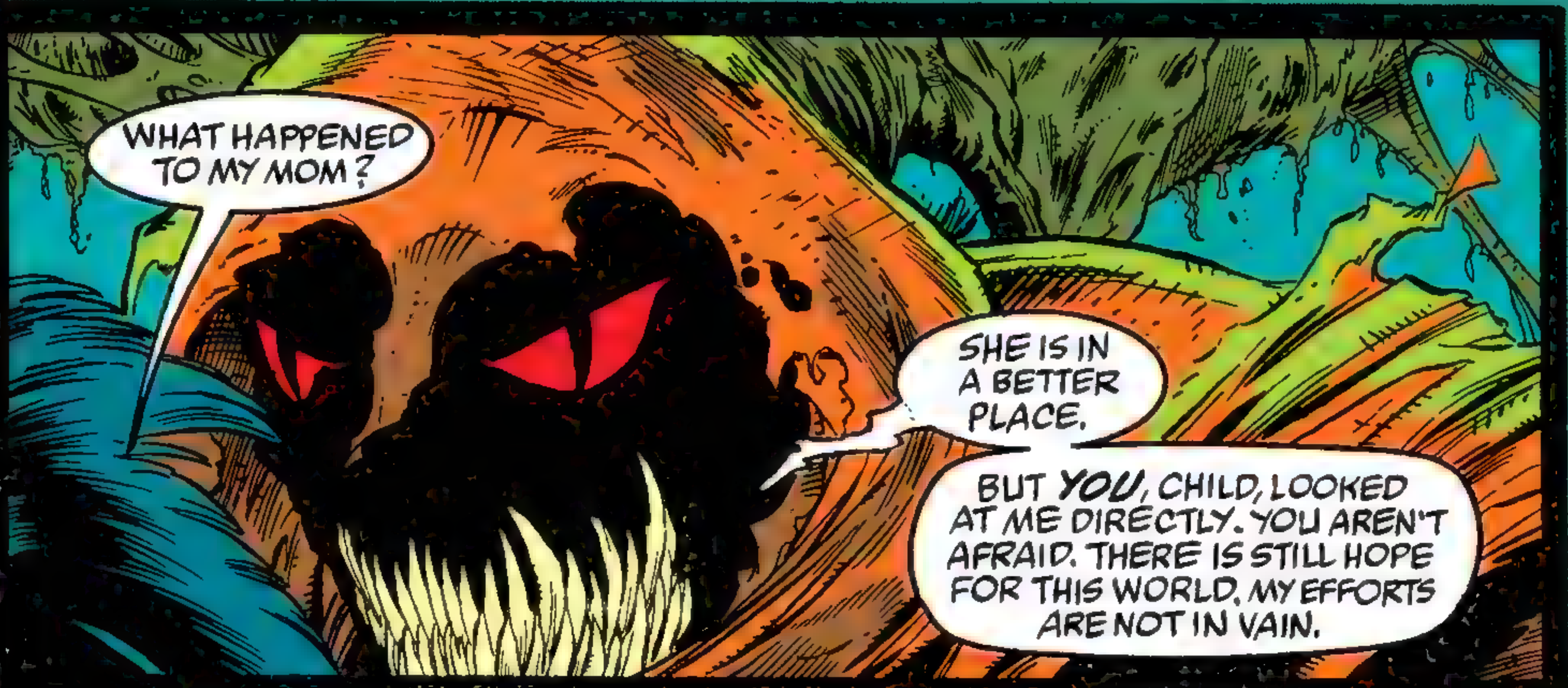


NO! YOUR KIND IS ALWAYS BLIND. **HYPOCRITE, BLASPHEMER.** ONLY PRAY THAT **HE** SHALL FORGIVE YOU TOO!

mmngh!



MOM?



WHAT HAPPENED TO MY MOM?

SHE IS IN A BETTER PLACE.

BUT **YOU**, CHILD, LOOKED AT ME DIRECTLY. YOU AREN'T AFRAID. THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR THIS WORLD. MY EFFORTS ARE NOT IN VAIN.



COME, YOU SHALL BE MY **DISCIPLE**, I WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH. KNOWLEDGE.

OUR MISSION IS JUST BEGINNING.



I WANT MY MOM.

FORGET YOUR EARTHLY WANTS.

OUR NEEDS ARE
FAR BEYOND THOSE
OF MORTALS.



BROOKLYN.

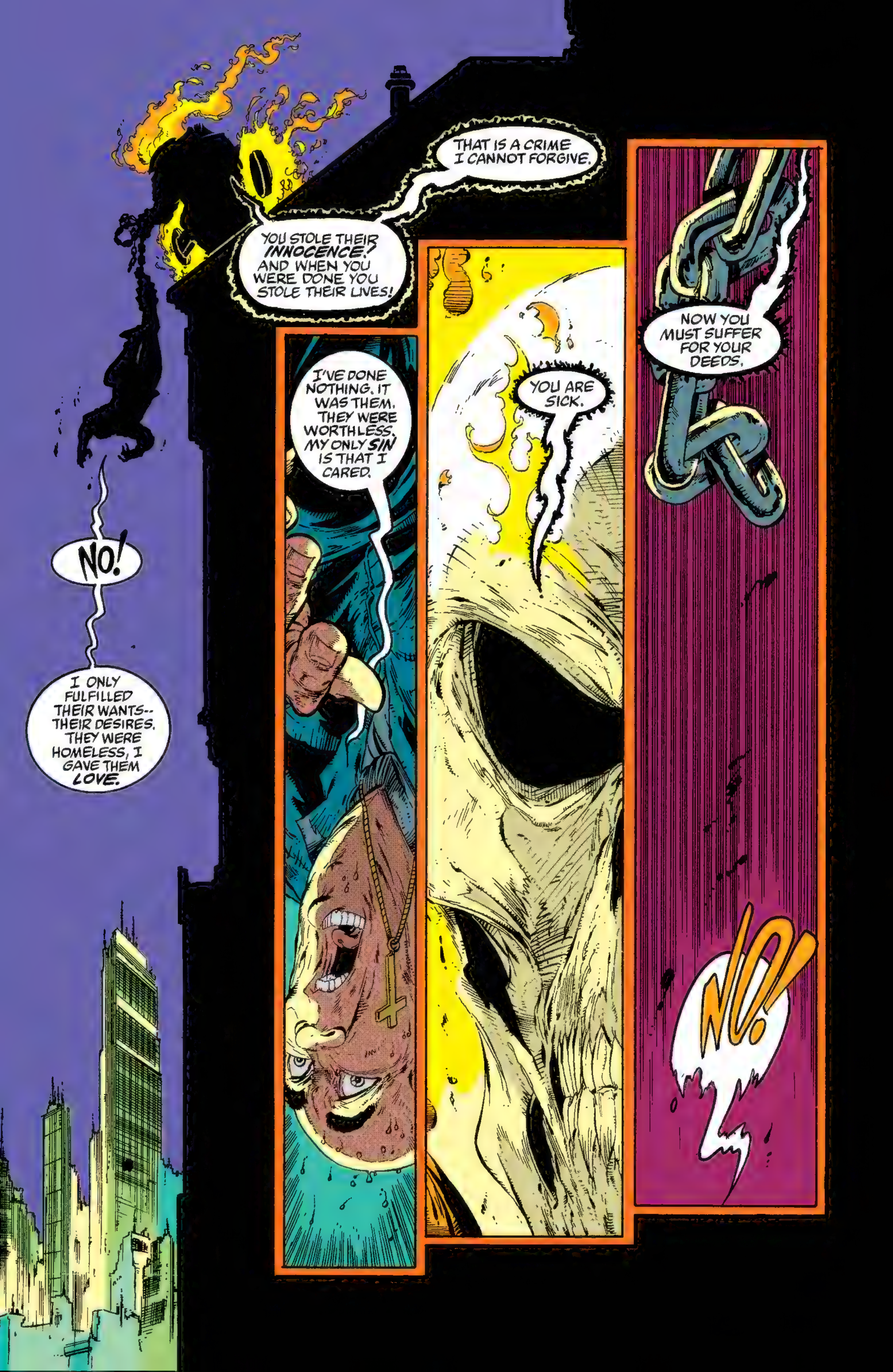
IT'S NOT
MY FAULT,
THEY LIKED IT.
THEY WANTED
IT.

YOUR KIND CAN
ALWAYS RATIONALIZE
IT AWAY.

DEGRADING CHILDREN
IN VILE PORNOGRAPHIC MOVIES
CAN HAVE **NO** LOGICAL
EXPLANATION.

THEY'RE JUST
STREET KIDS.
NOTHING **SPECIAL**.
I GAVE THEM A
HOME AND WORK.

IS THAT
SO BAD?



THAT IS A CRIME
I CANNOT FORGIVE.

YOU STOLE THEIR
INNOCENCE.
AND WHEN YOU
WERE DONE YOU
STOLE THEIR LIVES!

I'VE DONE
NOTHING. IT
WAS THEM.
THEY WERE
WORTHLESS.
MY ONLY *SIN*
IS THAT I
CARED.

YOU ARE
SICK.

NOW YOU
MUST SUFFER
FOR YOUR
DEEDS.

NO!

I ONLY
FULFILLED
THEIR WANTS--
THEIR DESIRES.
THEY WERE
HOMELESS, I
GAVE THEM
LOVE.

NO!!

YES!

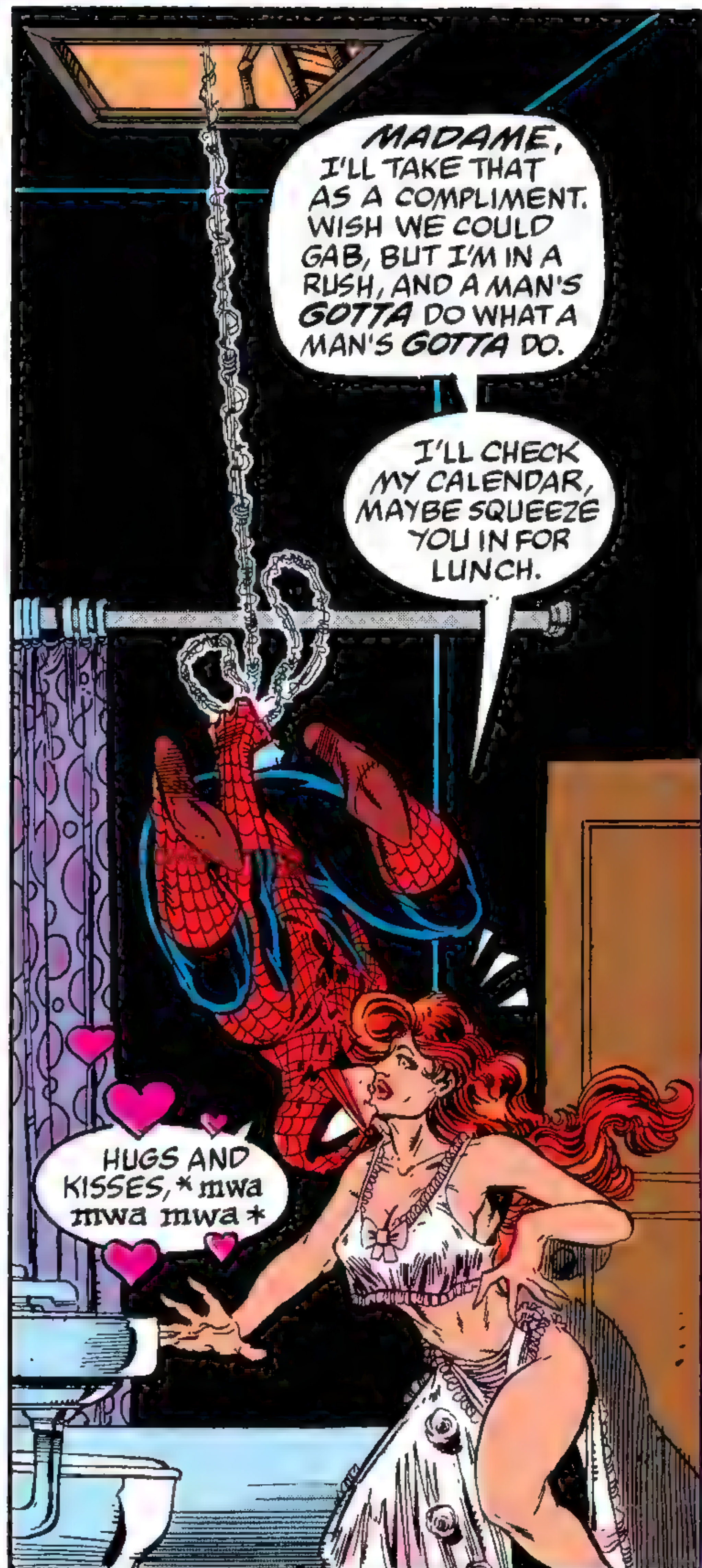
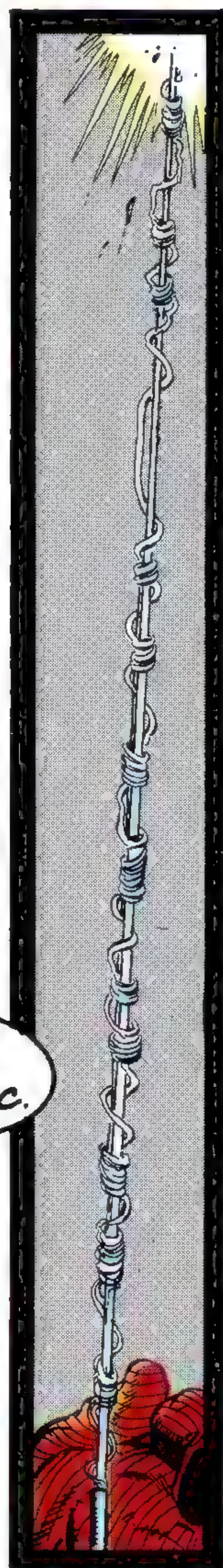
HE FALLS A
DOZEN STORIES,
SCREAMING ALL
THE WAY---

YOU CHOOSE TO HIDE
BEHIND LIES AND DECEIT.
NOW *FEEL* THE ANGUISH
YOU HAVE BROUGHT UPON
THE *INNOCENT*.

-- YET, BELOW,
THE GHOST
RIDER WAITS,
READY TO MEET
OUT HIS
VENGEANCE.

G--G--
G--GOD.

THE SPIRIT HAS
DELIVERED HIS
MESSAGE.



A full-page comic book illustration of Spider-Man. He is shown from the waist up, completely entangled in a chaotic web of his own red and blue webbing. His head is at the top, looking down with a frustrated expression. His arms and legs are spread out, also caught in the web. The background shows a cityscape with brick buildings and a clear blue sky with a few birds flying. The overall tone is humorous and self-deprecating.

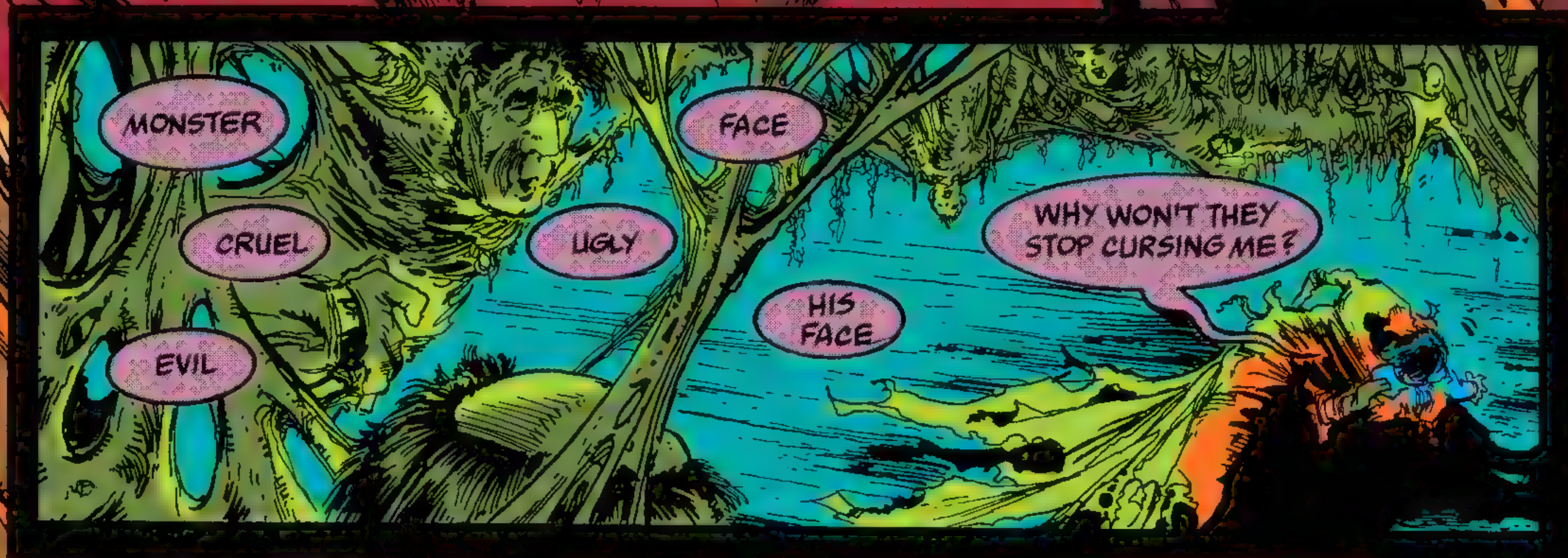
BYE!

THAT *MARY JANE*,
WHAT A SPORT! SOMEDAY
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO
DIVORCE HER -- JUST
SO I CAN MARRY HER
ALL OVER AGAIN.

BUT TIME TO GET
DOWN TO SOME SERIOUS
SUPER-HEROING ---

--- IF I DON'T GET
CAUGHT IN THIS
WEBBING FIRST.

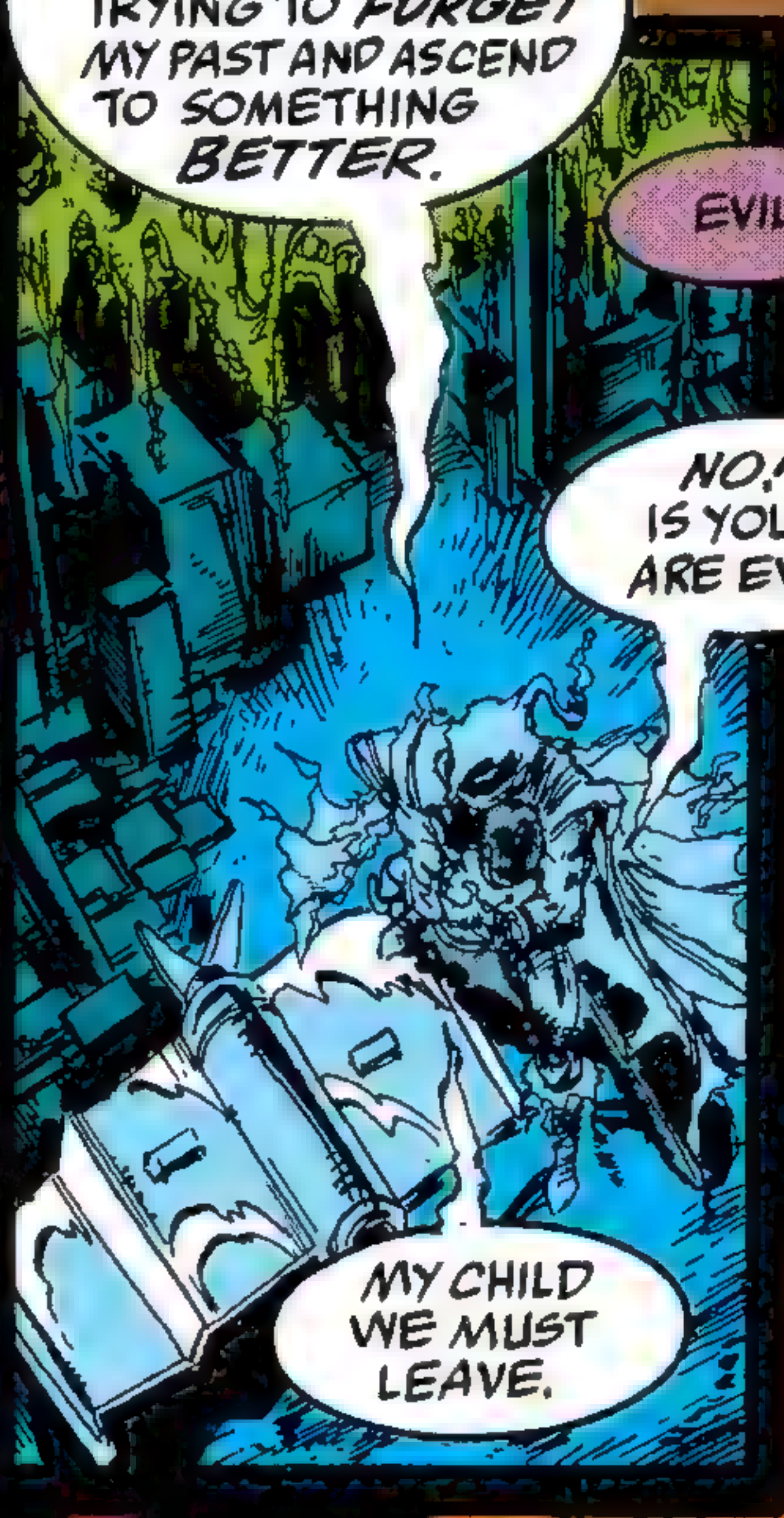
WHY DO I
SHOOT SO *MUCH*
OF IT ANYWAY?



BEFORE, I WAS A MERCENARY--A GUN FOR HIRE. NOW I'M TRYING TO *FORGET* MY PAST AND ASCEND TO SOMETHING BETTER.

EVIL

NO! IT IS YOU WHO ARE EVIL.



MY CHILD WE MUST LEAVE.

ONLY THE STRONG WILL LIVE, BUT THEY SHALL BEAR THE MARK, SHOWING THEY HAVE CHANGED THEIR WAYS.

SHOWING THEIR SALVATION.

FOR NOW, WE MUST FIND NEW QUARTERS.



THIS PUMPKIN BOMB WILL TEACH THEM TO MOCK ME.






WHAT'S THE BODY COUNT?

TWELVE, SIR. ANOTHER FIFTEEN ARE STILL ALIVE-- BUT ALL ARE DISFIGURED BADLY.

DO WE KNOW HOW MANY ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR?

NOT YET. BE ANOTHER SIX TO SEVEN HOURS TILL WE SIFT THROUGH THIS GARBAGE.


UNBELIEVABLE.




SOME OF THE VICTIMS ARE GIVING INFORMATION. LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER SICKO SUPER-VILLAIN.

MY GOD, HOW MANY OF THOSE GUYS ARE THERE?

WAY TOO MANY, SIR.



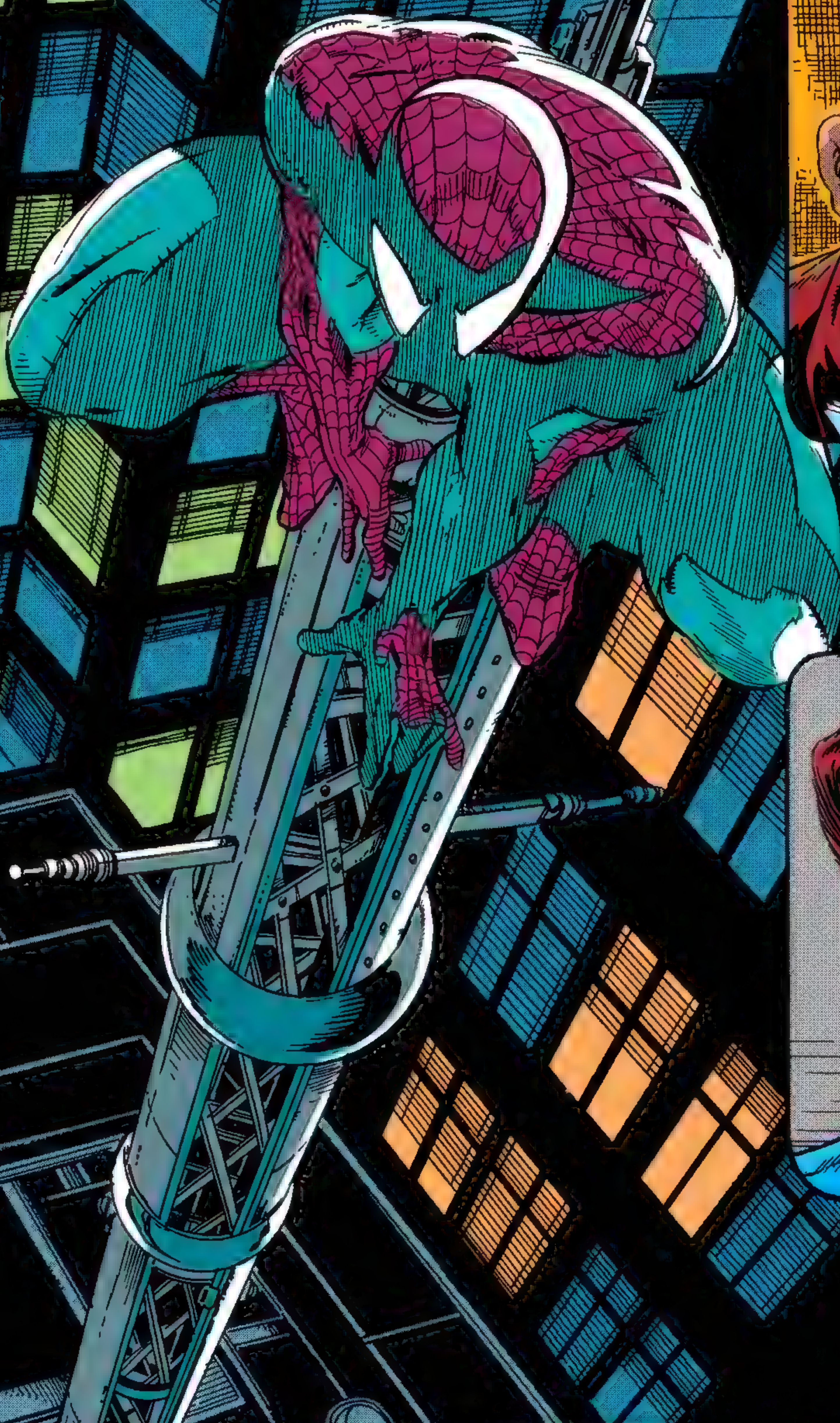
LUCKY US, HUH?



"THESE BATTLES ARE GETTING WAY OUT OF OUR LEAGUE.

"WHERE'RE THE SO-CALLED HEROES-- TOO SCARED TO COME OUT AT NIGHT AND HELP CLEAN UP THE MESS THEY MADE.

"SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE'S A FLAMING LUNATIC THESE DAYS!"



ONCE AGAIN WE REPEAT OUR TOP STORY. TWELVE PEOPLE ARE DEAD, ANOTHER FIFTEEN INJURED IN WHAT SEEMS TO BE AN UNPROVOKED ATTACK BY THE VILLAIN CALLED HOBGOBLIN---

-- WERE THE VICTIMS OF KIDNAPPING. PREVIOUSLY BELIEVED TO BE MISSING. THE SURVIVORS WERE ALL SCARRED BADLY, ALTHOUGH THE DOCTORS INDICATE THE WOUNDS WERE NOT FROM THE FIRE, BUT MORE LIKELY---

-- FORMERLY THE JACK O' LANTERN, HIS PAST DOES NOT INDICATE ANY OF THIS. IT IS MY OPINION THAT THE HEROES HAVE INADVERTENTLY BRED A CESSPOOL OF ADVERSARIES THAT CANNOT BE RESTRICTED TO POLITE GRUDGE MATCHES--

EDITORIAL

-- AUTHORITIES HAVE SAID, IN THIS SENSELESS SLAUGHTER. THE FANTASTIC FOUR ASSURED THE MEDIA THAT SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE THE POINT MAN IN THIS INVESTIGATION WITH PLENTY OF BACK-UP SHOULD HE REQUIRE---



ALL RIGHT!
ALL RIGHT!

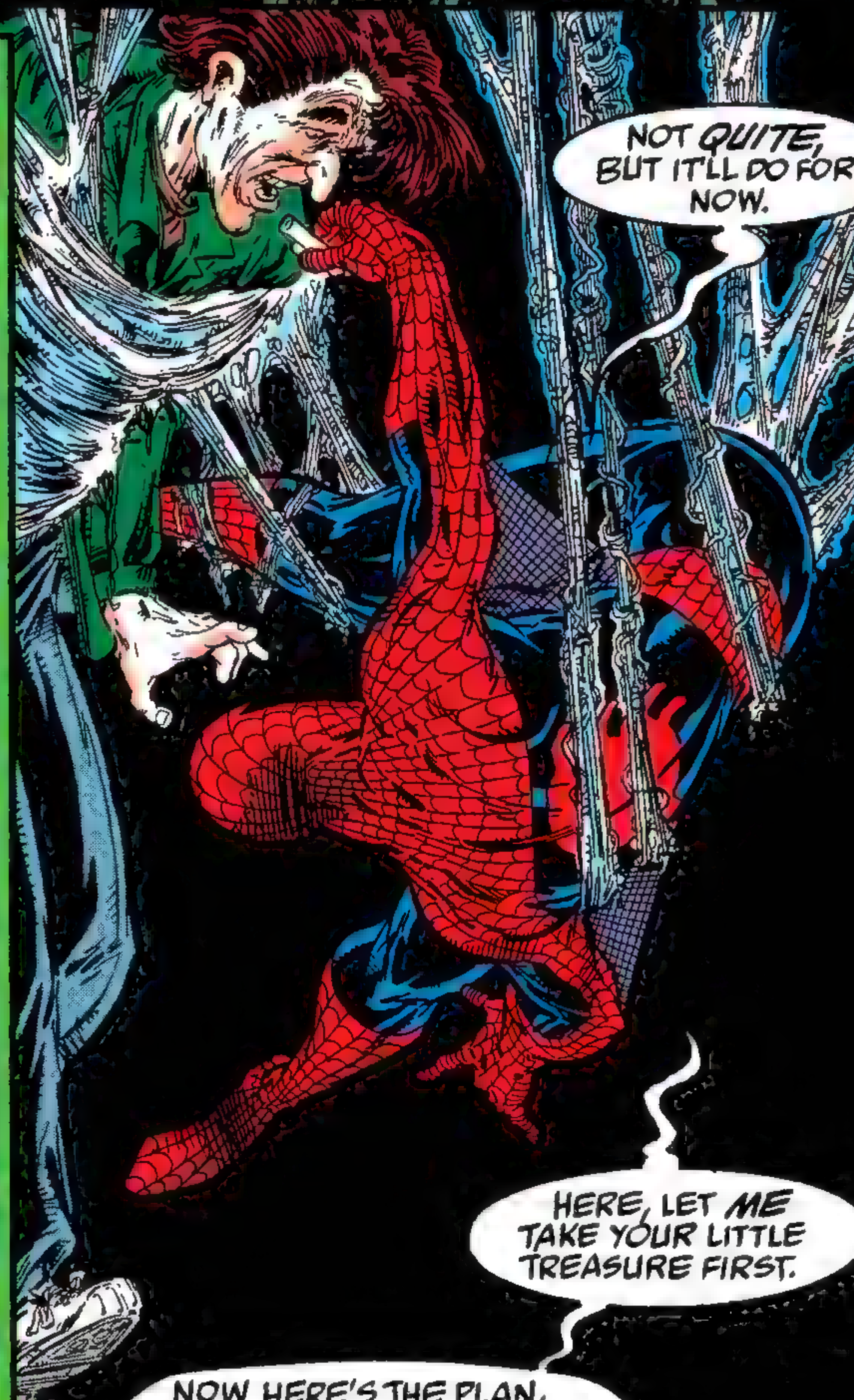
COME TO DADDY, YOU
BEAUTIFUL ANGEL. SHOW
ME HOW TO FEEL GOOD.
C'MON NOW, HERE WE
GO.



READY!
ONE,
TWO--



--LORD
ABOVE!



NOT QUITE,
BUT IT'LL DO FOR
NOW.

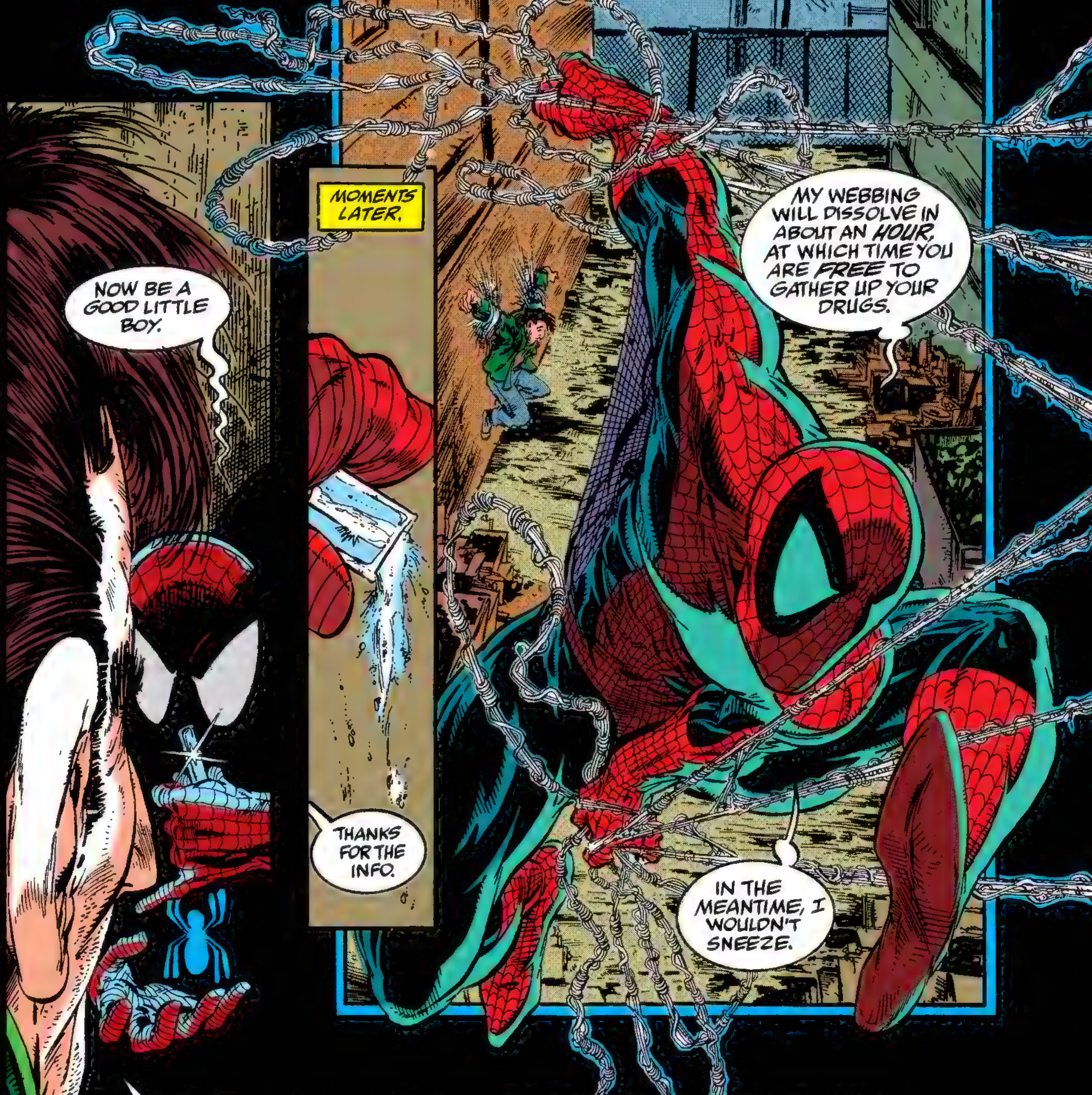
HERE, LET ME
TAKE YOUR LITTLE
TREASURE FIRST.

NOW HERE'S THE PLAN,
EVERYONE'S POINTED ME
IN YOUR DIRECTION TONIGHT.
THEY SAY YOU MIGHT KNOW
WHERE THE HOBGOBLIN
IS HOLED UP.

I DON'T LIKE
THE WORD
MIGHT!

SO IF YOU TELL ME
WHAT I NEED TO KNOW,
THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE
YOU CAN HAVE SOME
DESSERT.





NOW BE A
GOOD LITTLE
BOY.

MOMENTS
LATER.

MY WEBBING
WILL DISSOLVE IN
ABOUT AN HOUR,
AT WHICH TIME YOU
ARE FREE TO
GATHER UP YOUR
DRUGS.

THANKS
FOR THE
INFO.

IN THE
MEANTIME, I
WOULDN'T
SNEEZE.



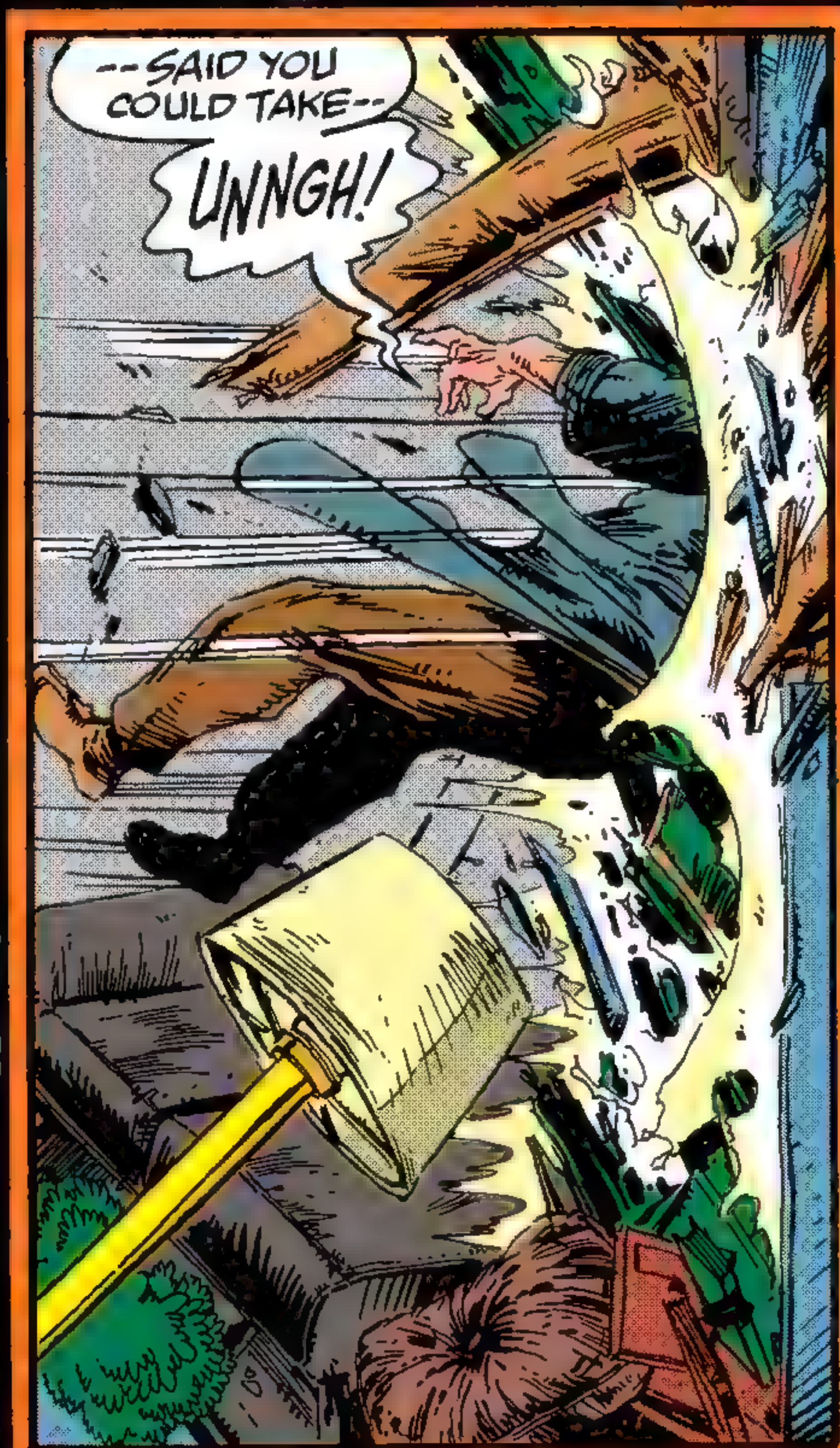
OKAY!
ALL RIGHT!
JUST DON'T
SPILL ANY OF
IT!!

STUFF'S
EXPENSIVE,
YA KNOW.



HEY, THE WIND!
YOU FORGOT
ABOUT THE
WIND!

WHAT KIND OF A
MONSTER
ARE YOU!!?



--SAID YOU
COULD TAKE--

UNNGH!



PLEASE--I'VE TOLD
YOU WHERE THE GUN
SHIPMENT AND MONEY
ARE--*ANYTHING* YOU
NEED, IT'S *YOURS*--
JUST BACK OFF--PLEASE
LET ME MOVE AND---

---I'LL---

GOD,
NO.

FOOL.



I'VE ASKED YOU ONCE--
NICELY. I DON'T GIVE
SECOND CHANCES.

HOBGOBLIN,
WHERE IS
HE?

okay
okay

I'LL DEAL
WITH YOUR
GUNS
ANOTHER
TIME.

I'M GLAD YOU'VE CONVERTED OVER TO THE LORD'S SIDE, CHILD.

I, MYSELF, HAD FALLEN INTO SIN ONCE. CASTING ABOUT FOR MY LOT IN LIFE, I LATCHED ONTO THE *NEGATIVE* THINGS. BUT RECENTLY, I'VE DISCOVERED HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE FALLEN FROM GRACE.

THEN THE VOICES STARTED. THE *TAUNTS*. THE *LIES*. AND I KNEW I HAD A REKINDLED PURPOSE.

GOOD. YOU ARE READY TO REDEEM YOUR SOUL.

YEAH, YEAH, I'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE.

WHO DARES?!

ONE BY ONE I'VE DEALT WITH THEIR TRANSGRESSIONS. ONLY YOU HAVE SHOWN ME THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR THE TRUTH.

THAT WILL MAKE THIS EVEN EASIER.

ONCE COMPLETE, THE DEVIL WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET NEAR YOU.

THE WAYS OF EVIL CAN BE SO DESTRUCTIVE.

YES, MR. GOBLIN, SIR.

OTHERS WILL SOON FOLLOW.



LISTEN, I'M
GETTING SICK
AND TIRED OF YOU
PSYCHOS USING INNO-
CENT PEOPLE TO GET
AT ME!

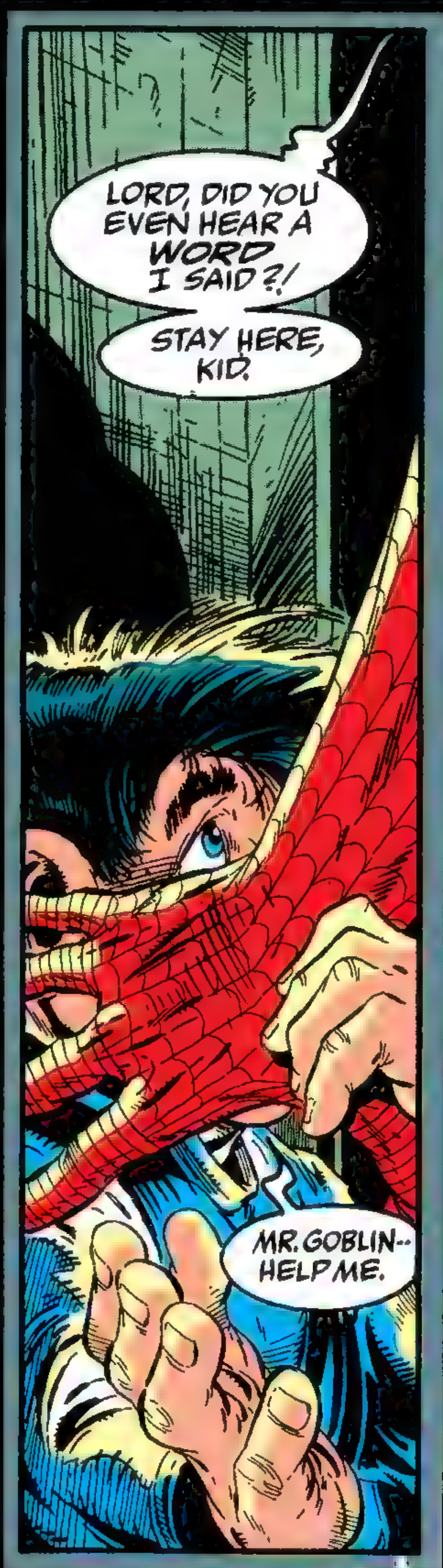
YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM,
THEN DEAL WITH ME DIRECTLY.
FILTH LIKE YOU HIDING BEHIND
CHILDREN...KILLING RANDOMLY--

WHERE
DOES IT
END ?!

THE
DEVIL!

HE HAS COME
TO CHALLENGE
MY NEW
ALLEGIANCE.

WHAT-- ?!



LORD, DID YOU
EVEN HEAR A
WORD
I SAID ?!

STAY HERE,
KID.

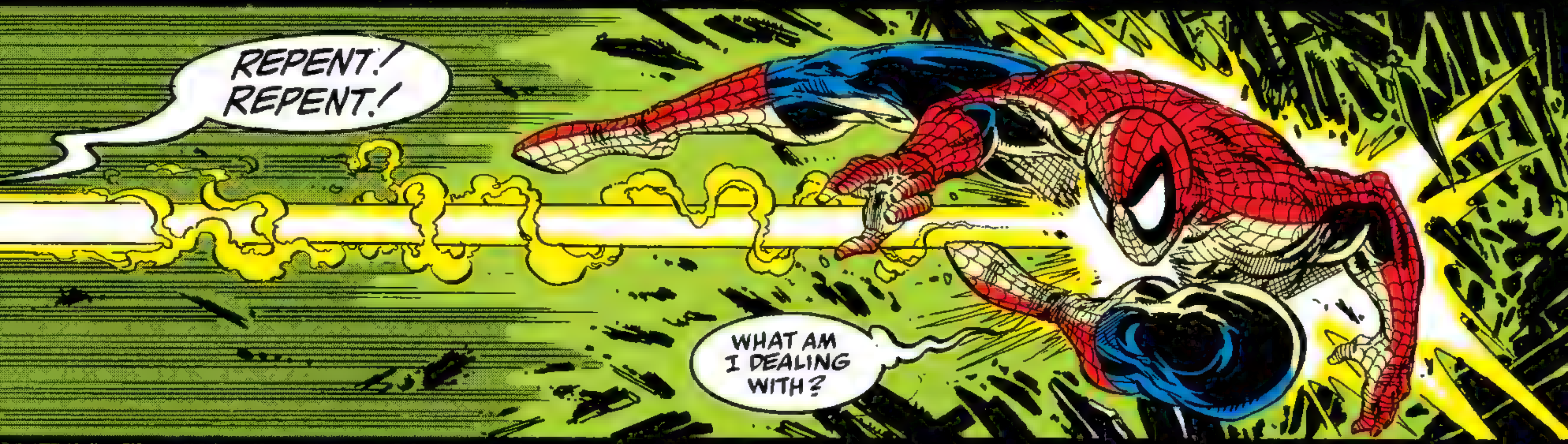
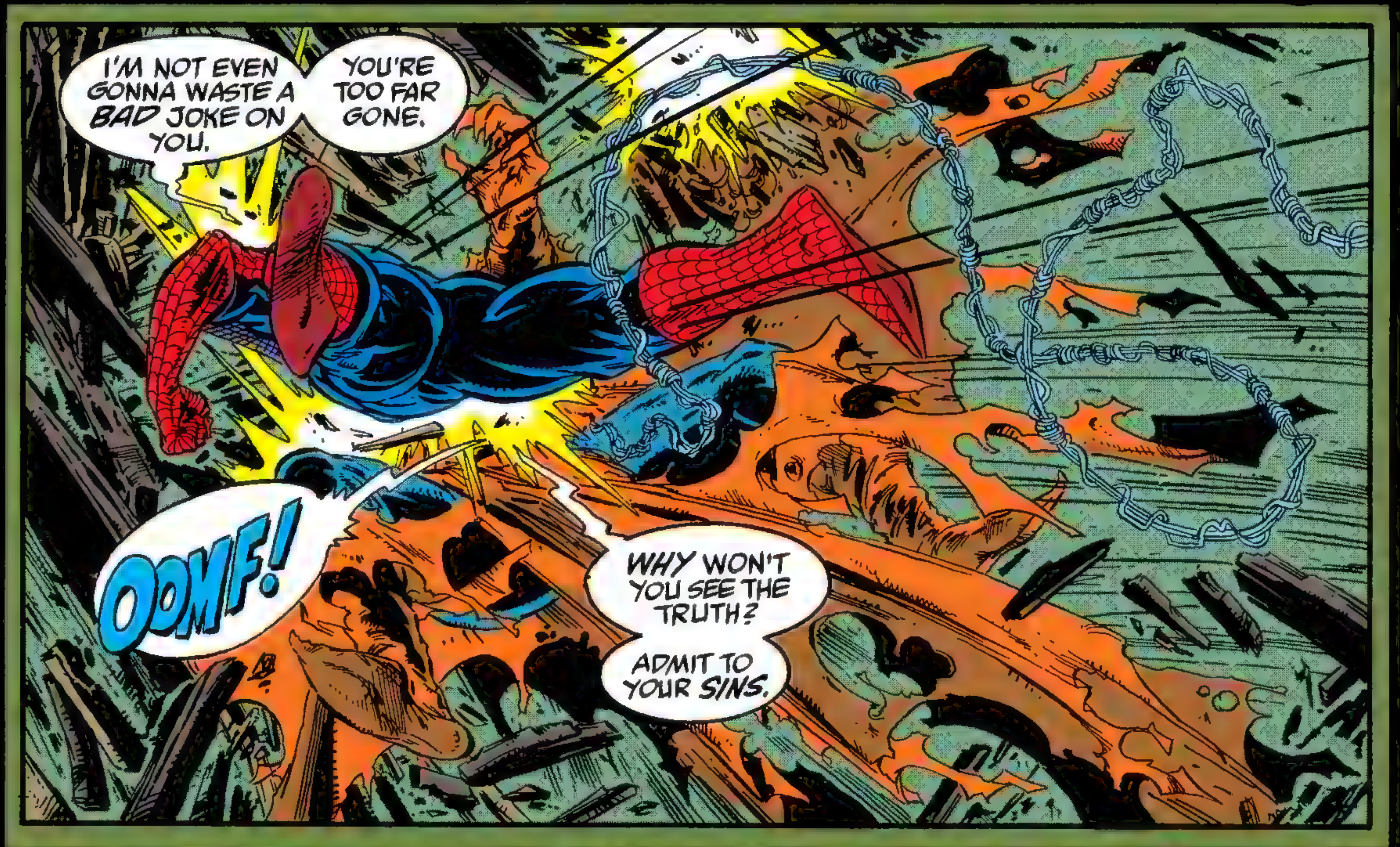
MR. GOBLIN--
HELP ME.



LEAVE
HIM ALONE,
DEMON!

KID,
MOVE IT!

GOBLIN,
ARE YOU
NUTS ?!
DUMB
QUESTION.

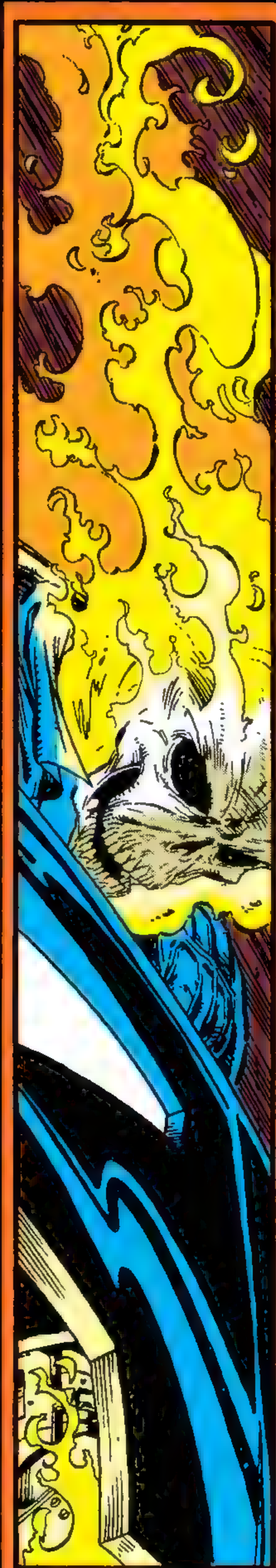


DON'T
HURT HIM,
SPIDER-MAN.
HE HASN'T
DONE ANY
HARM.

BESIDES, ME AND MR.
GOBLIN ARE NOW BEST
BUDDIES.

HE'S
TRYING
TO DO
GOOD.

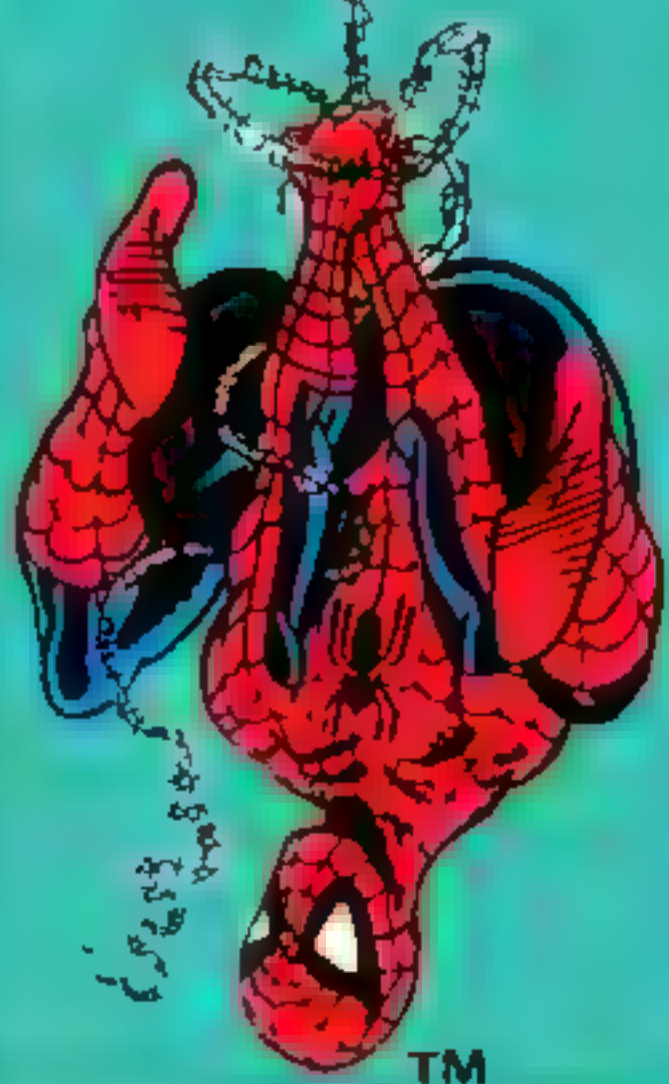
HE LOVES
ME.



THE SPIRIT OF
VENGEANCE
RACES CLOSER.

NEXT ISSUE:
The
CONCLUSION

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IF YOU LIKE GHOSTS AND GOBLINS — YOU'LL LOVE THIS ISSUE!

SPIDER-MAN[®]

PART 2 OF 2

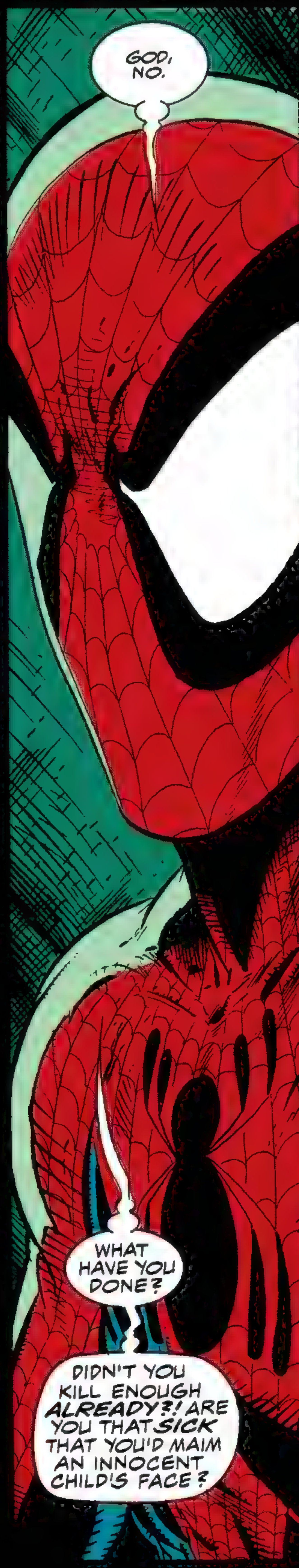
THE
GHOST
RIDER

WANTS

THE HOBGOBLIN[™]

AND SPIDEY'S[®] CAUGHT
IN THE MIDDLE!





GOD,
NO.

WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE?

DIDN'T YOU
KILL ENOUGH
ALREADY?! ARE
YOU THAT SICK
THAT YOU'D MAIM
AN INNOCENT
CHILD'S FACE?



MY DISCIPLE
HAS THE MARK OF
TRUTH. YOUR LIES
CAN NO LONGER
INFECT HIM.

WE ARE NOW
PROTECTED BY
ONE WITH MORE
POWER THAN
YOURS.

CHILD, TELL
THE DEVIL
WHERE YOUR
ALLEGIANCE
IS.



IT'S OKAY,
SPIDEY, MR.
GOBLIN IS ONLY
TRYING TO GET
RID OF THE BAD
PEOPLE...

...AND
HELP THE
GOOD.

HE SENT MY
MOMMY TO
HEAVEN.

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

TODD
McFARLANE
ARTIST / WRITER

JIM
NOVAK
GUEST LETTERER

GREGORY
WRIGHT
COLORIST

JIM
SALICRUP
EDITOR

TOM
DE FALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF



A full-page comic book illustration. Spider-Man is in the foreground, looking up in shock. In the background, a large, blue, spiky monster is amidst a city in flames and destruction. Several speech bubbles contain dialogue.

EVIL!

ITS BEACON
IS STATIONED
HERE!

LUCIFER!
THE SPIDER-DEVIL
HAS SENT FOR
LUCIFER
HIMSELF!

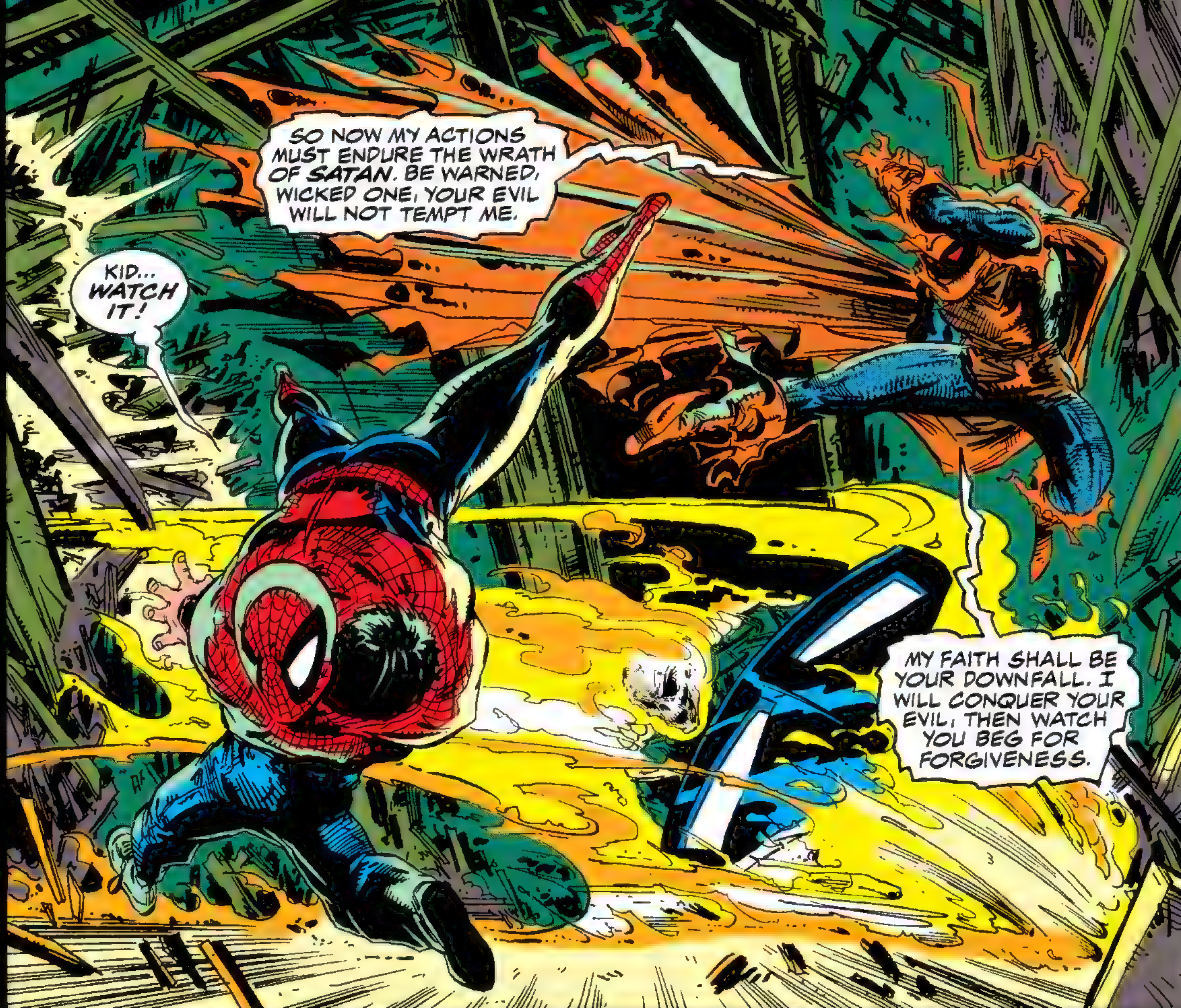
IS THE WHOLE
WORLD GOING
NUTS!?

WHA...!?

NOT ALL OF IT, BUT
SOMEONE MUST HELP
BRING ORDER TO THE
ABSURD.

TONIGHT, THE SPIRIT
OF VENGEANCE HAS
A MISSION.

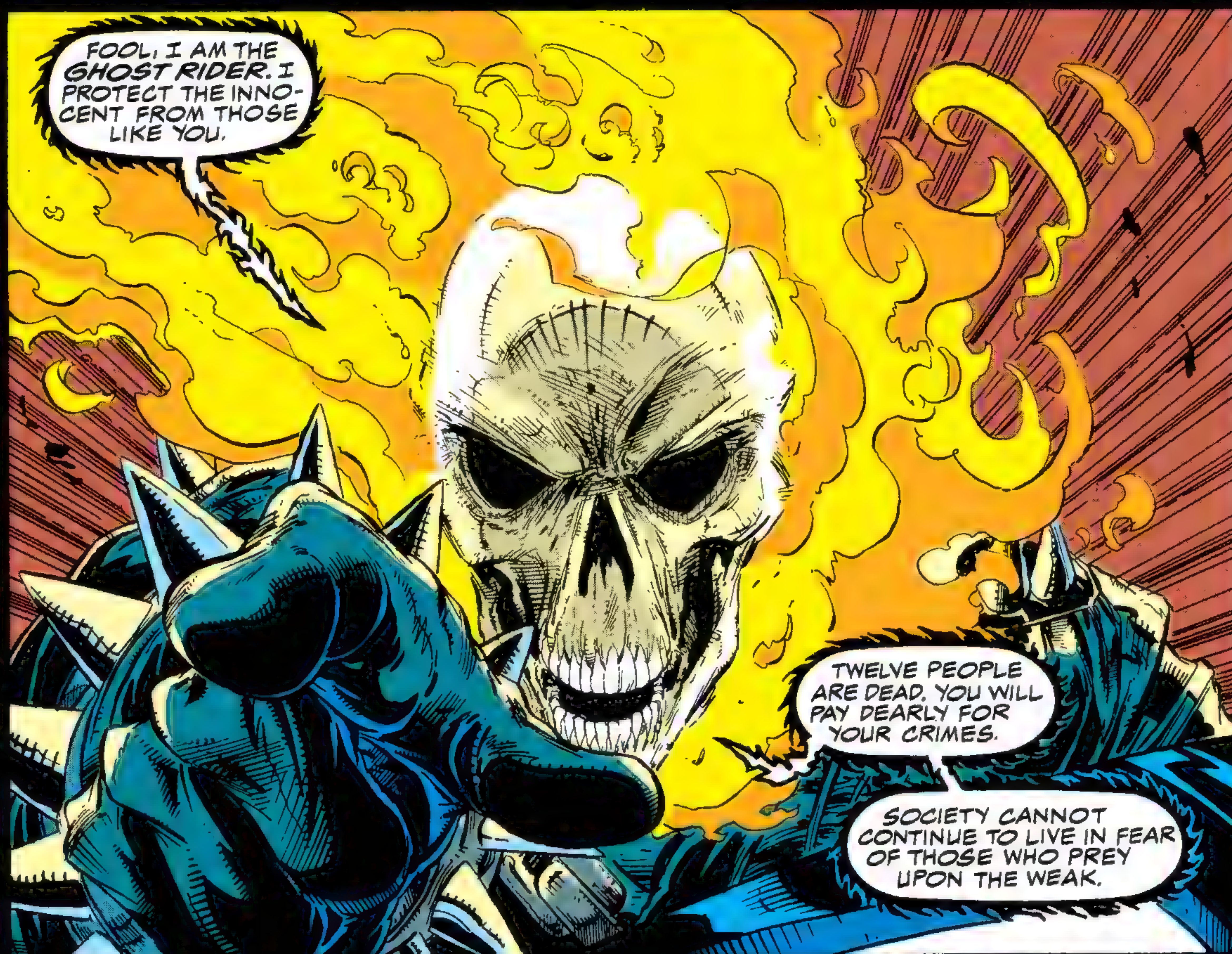
MASQUES PART 2



SO NOW MY ACTIONS
MUST ENDURE THE WRATH
OF SATAN. BE WARNED,
WICKED ONE, YOUR EVIL
WILL NOT TEMPT ME.

KID...
WATCH
IT!


MY FAITH SHALL BE
YOUR DOWNFALL. I
WILL CONQUER YOUR
EVIL, THEN WATCH
YOU BEG FOR
FORGIVENESS.



FOOL, I AM THE
GHOST RIDER. I
PROTECT THE INNO-
CENT FROM THOSE
LIKE YOU.

TWELVE PEOPLE
ARE DEAD. YOU WILL
PAY DEARLY FOR
YOUR CRIMES.

SOCIETY CANNOT
CONTINUE TO LIVE IN FEAR
OF THOSE WHO PREY
UPON THE WEAK.



KID,
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?
DOES IT
HURT?

PLEASE, SPIDER-MAN,
YOU'VE GOTTA HELP MR.
GOBLIN. HE DOESN'T WANT
TO HURT ANYONE.

HE'S OUR
FRIEND.

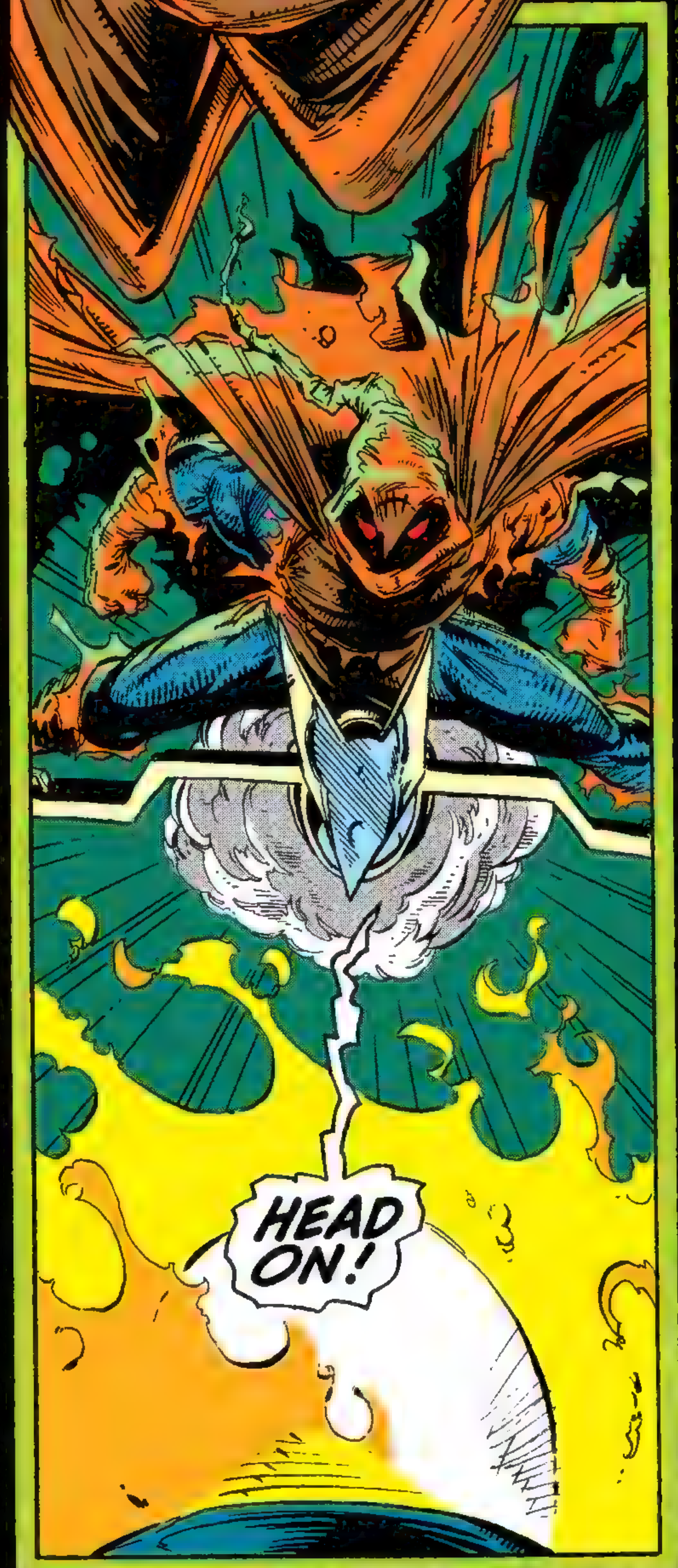
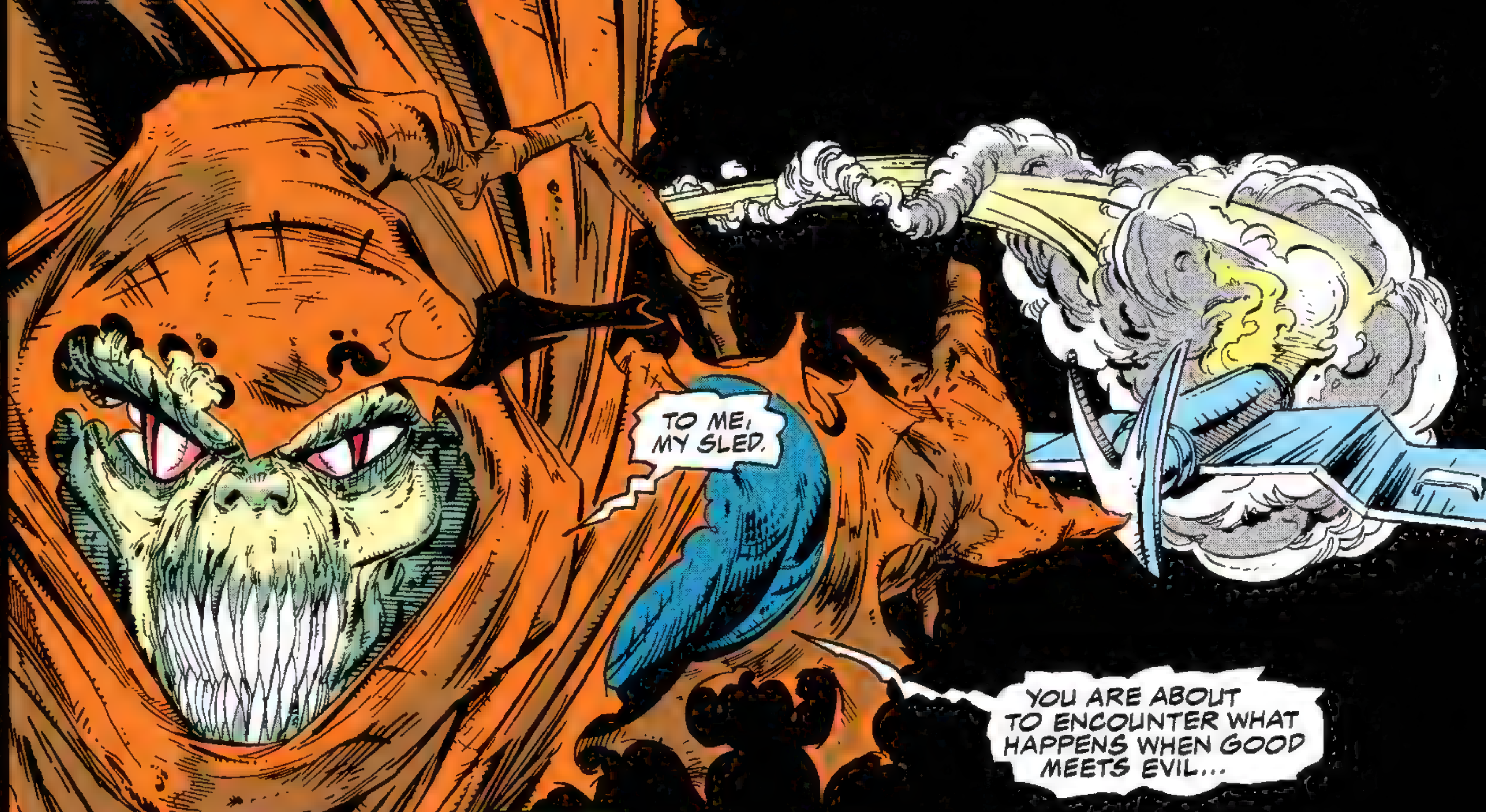
BLASPHEMER!
I'VE DEALT WITH
YOUR KIND! ALWAYS
DENYING YOUR
WAYS... TRYING TO
TRICK US!

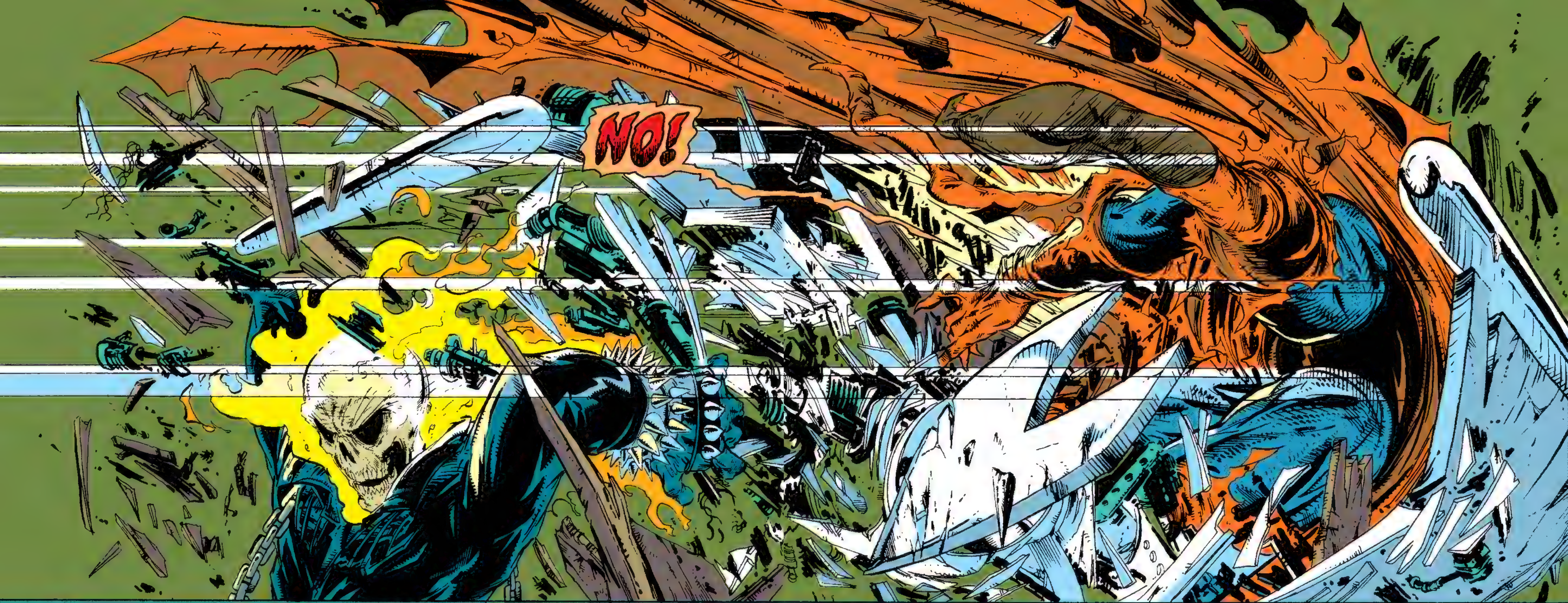
YOUR
INSANITY WILL
NOT HELP
YOU.

IT'S TIME
TO SUFFER
FOR YOUR
EVIL.

EVIL! LUCIFER
HIMSELF CALLING ME
EVIL. HOW DARE YOU
JUDGE ME. IT IS SCUM
(FORGIVE ME, FATHER)
LIKE YOU WHO MUST
BE DESTROYED.

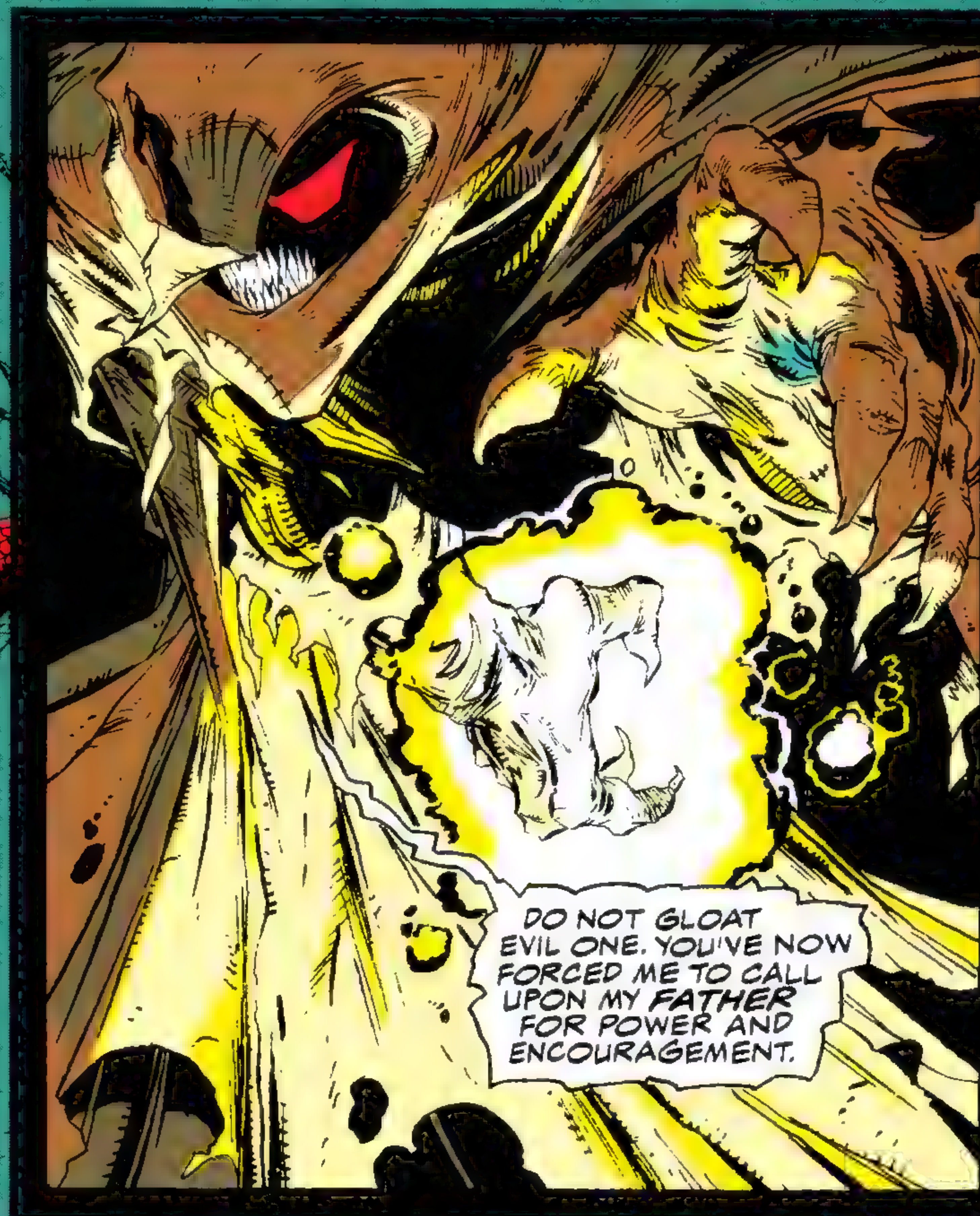
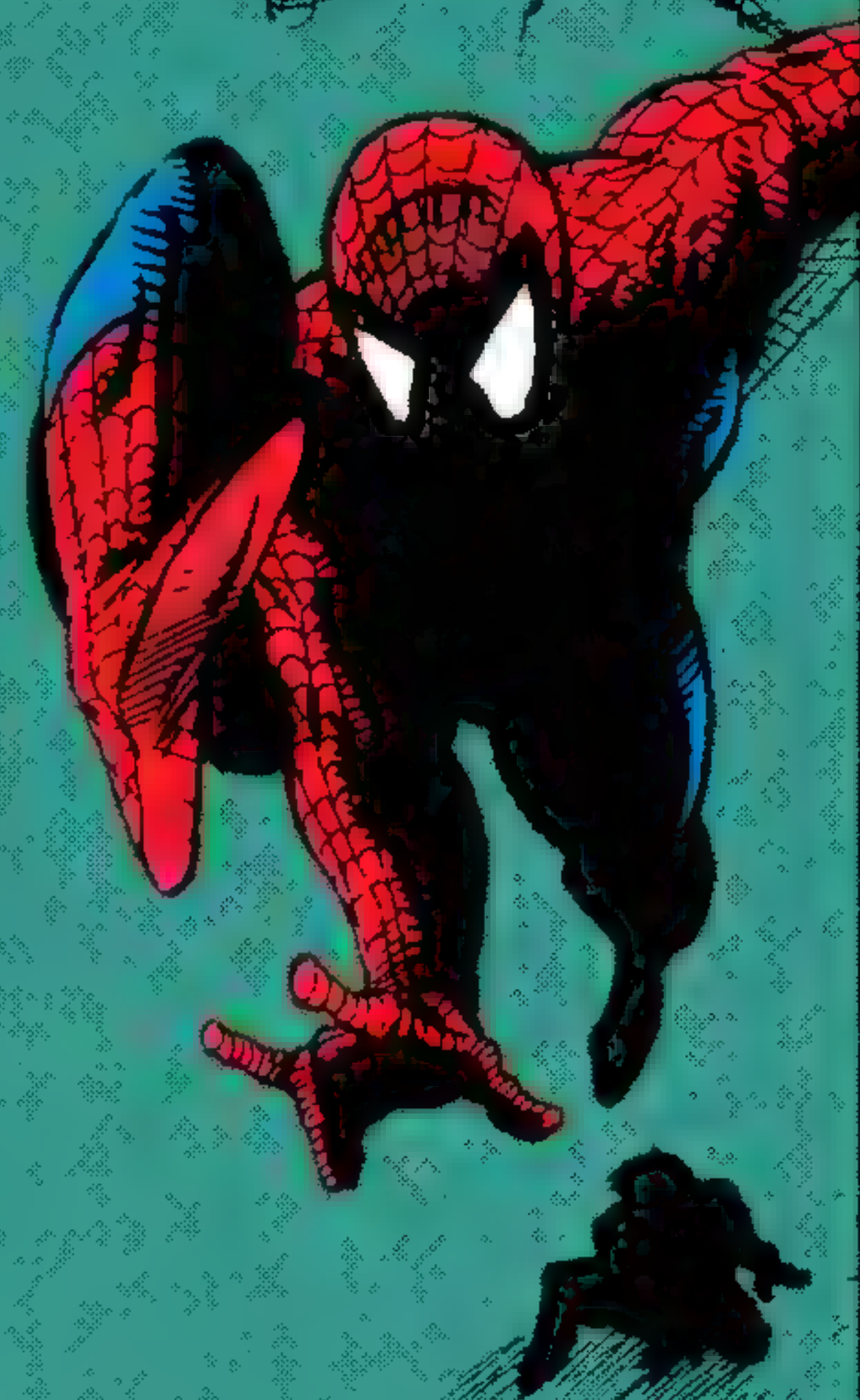
MAKE
YOUR
MOVE.



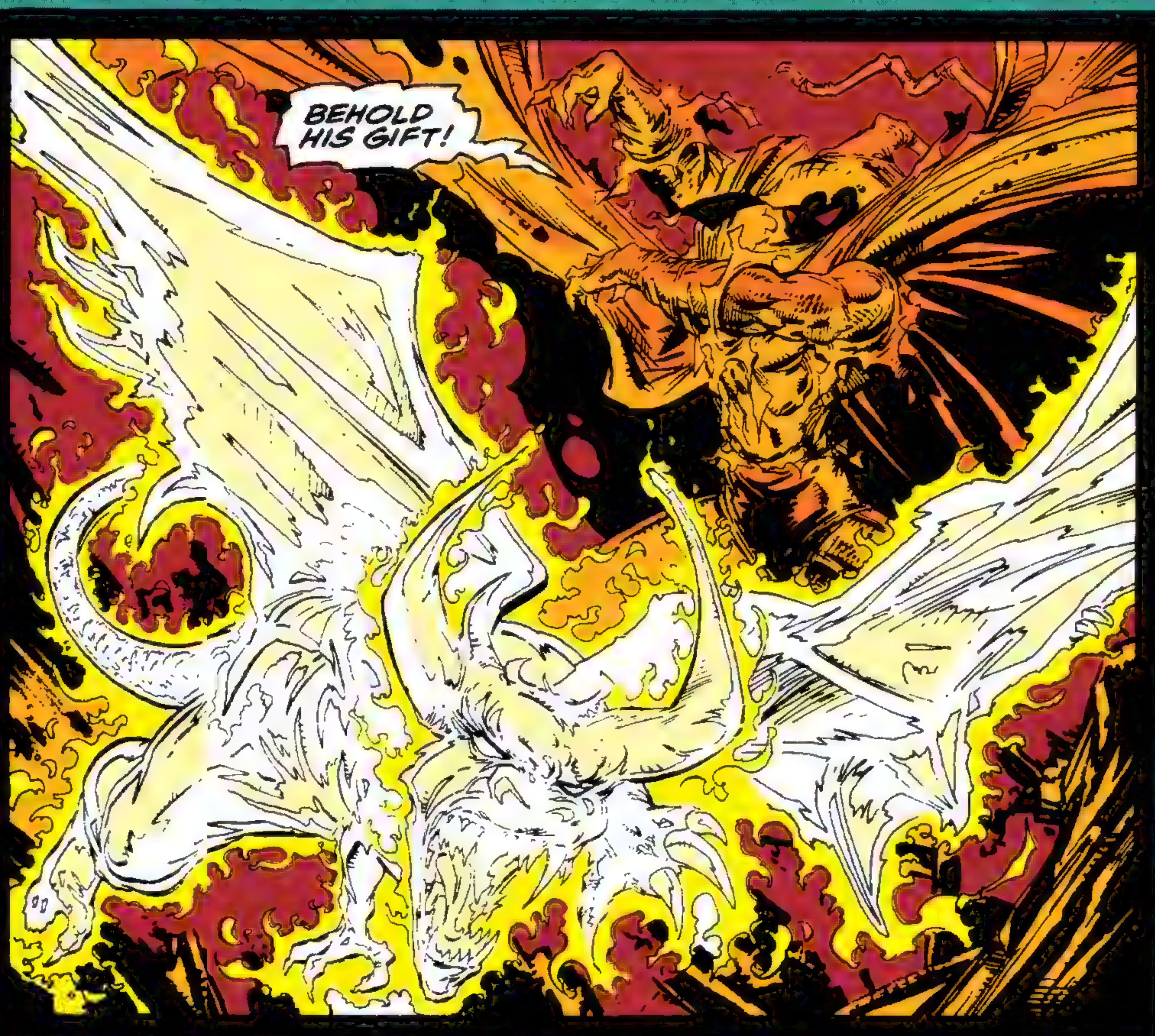


THIS IS
GETTING WAY
OUT OF CONTROL.
IF I DON'T DO SOME-
THING, WE COULD
ALL DIE!

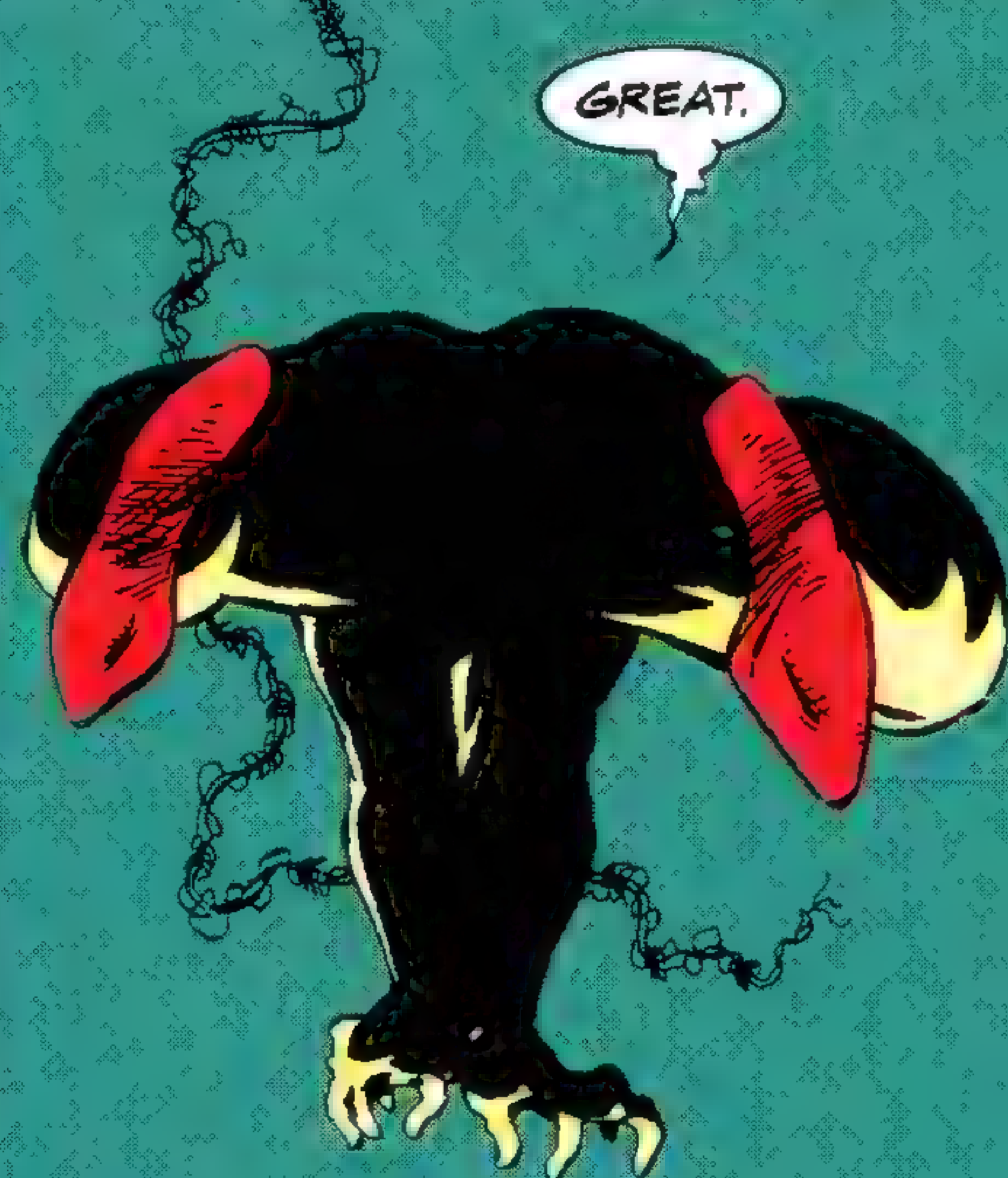
KID!
WHATEVER
YOU DO, DON'T
MOVE! I'M ABOUT
TO HELP OUR
FRIENDS!



DO NOT GLOAT
EVIL ONE. YOU'VE NOW
FORCED ME TO CALL
UPON MY FATHER
FOR POWER AND
ENCOURAGEMENT.



BEHOLD
HIS GIFT!



GREAT.

IF HOBGOBLIN
EVER MANAGES TO
CONTROL HIS NEW
POWERS, WE'RE
ALL GONNA BE
TOAST!

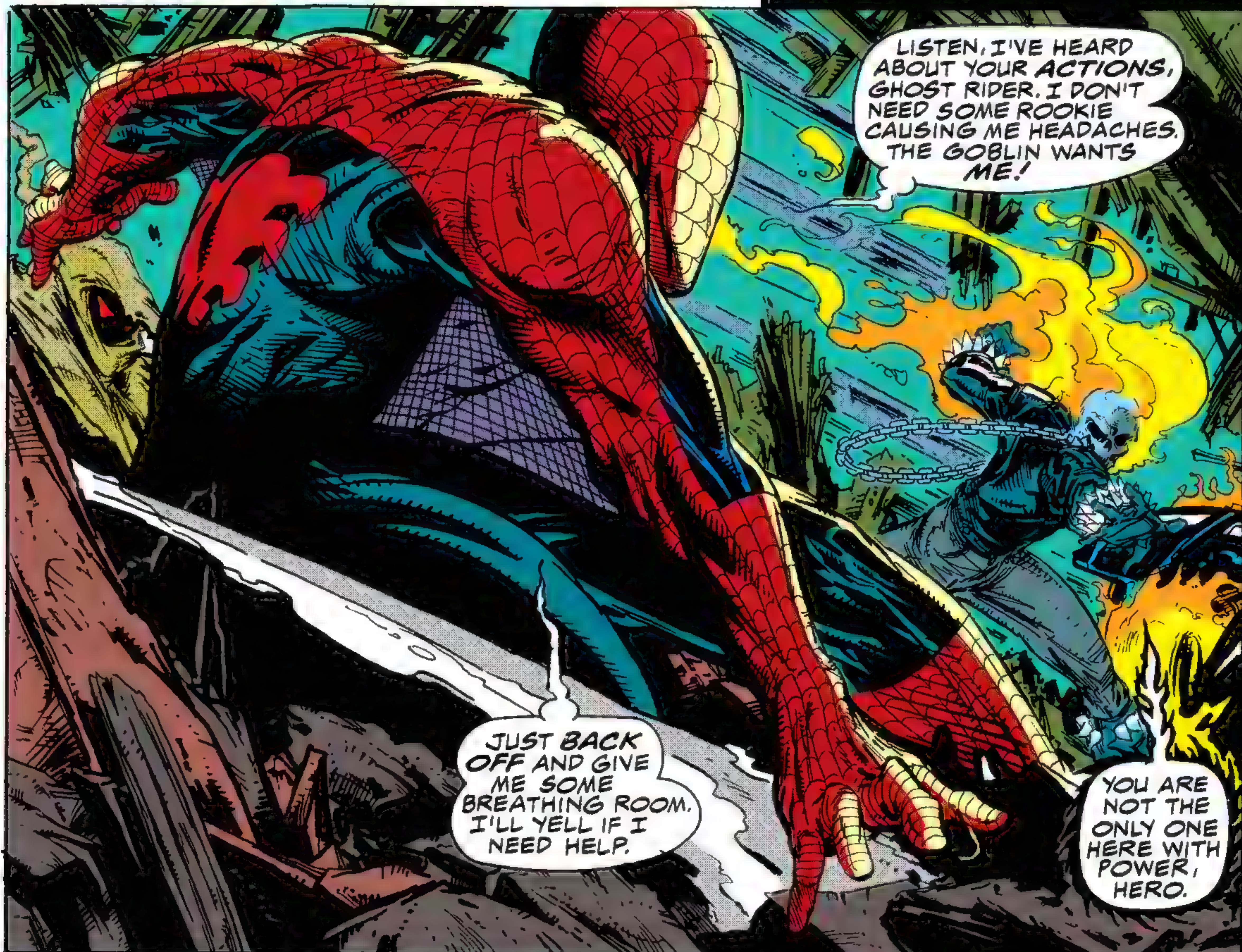
UUNGH!!

STAND
ASIDE
HERO...

IT'S TIME
TO TEACH THIS
WORM THAT HE
CAN'T HARM THE
INNOCENT...

...WITHOUT
BEING
PUNISHED!

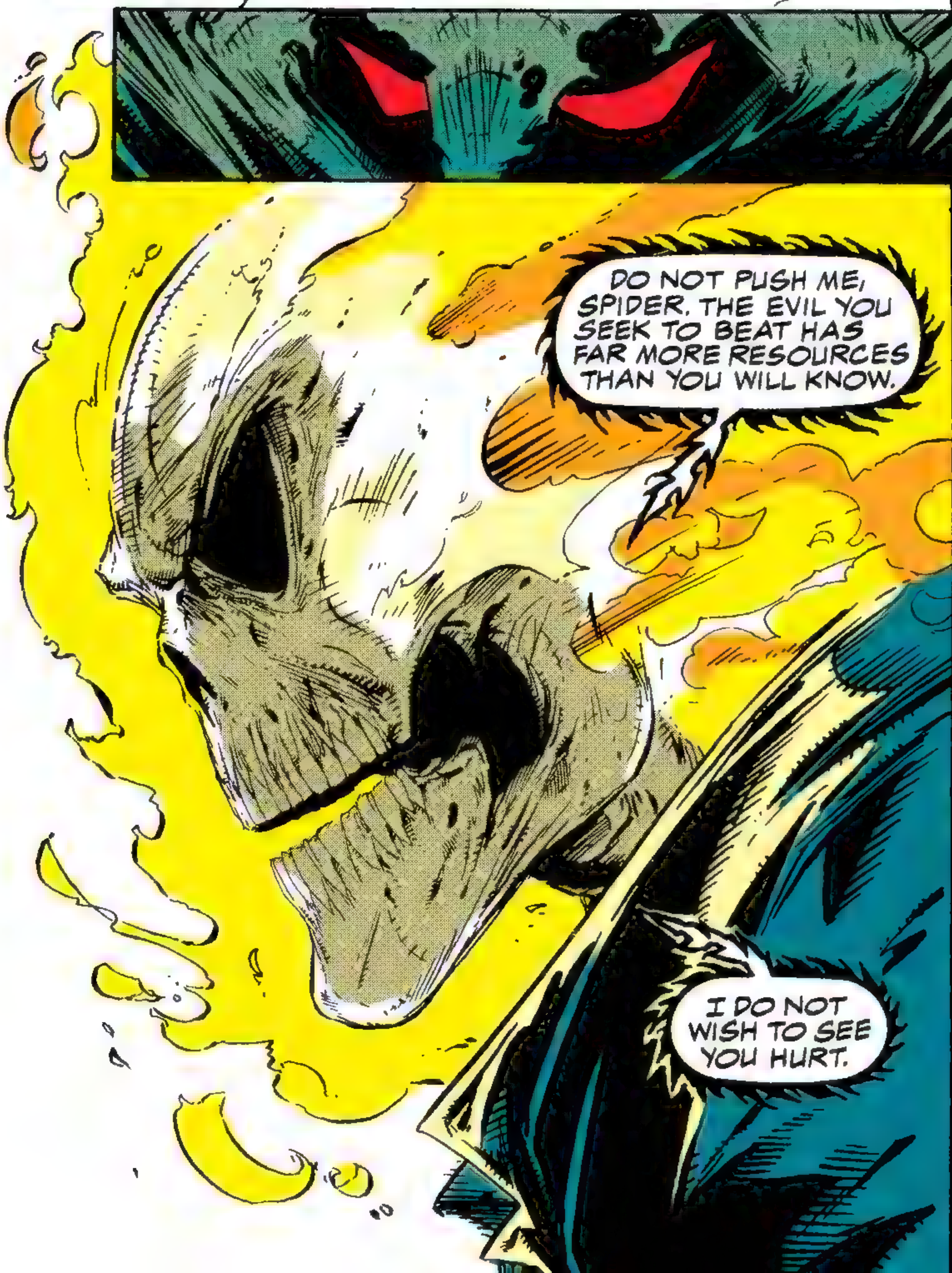
HEY!
WHAT'RE YOU,
DOING, YA
FLAMIN'
IDIOT?!



LISTEN, I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOUR ACTIONS, GHOST RIDER. I DON'T NEED SOME ROOKIE CAUSING ME HEADACHES. THE GOBLIN WANTS ME!

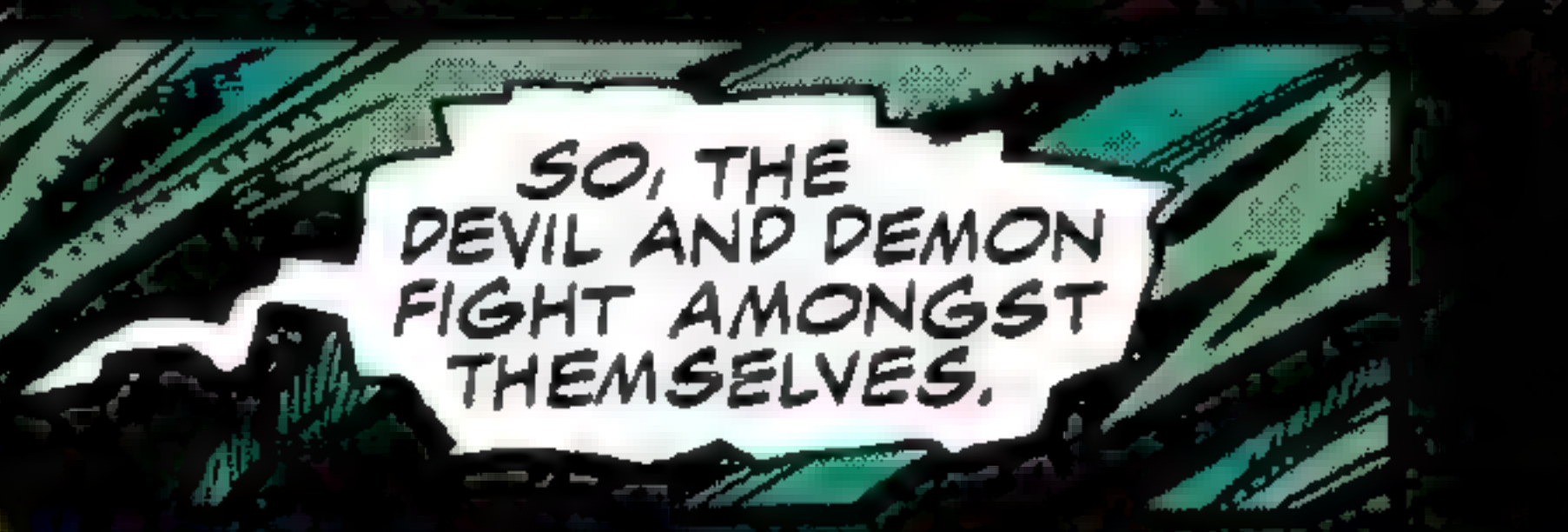
JUST BACK OFF AND GIVE ME SOME BREATHING ROOM. I'LL YELL IF I NEED HELP.

YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE HERE WITH POWER, HERO.



DO NOT PUSH ME, SPIDER. THE EVIL YOU SEEK TO BEAT HAS FAR MORE RESOURCES THAN YOU WILL KNOW.

I DO NOT WISH TO SEE YOU HURT.



SO, THE DEVIL AND DEMON FIGHT AMONGST THEMSELVES.



THANKS FOR THE CONCERN, PAL, BUT THERE'S A LITTLE BOY CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS.

THE CHILD?



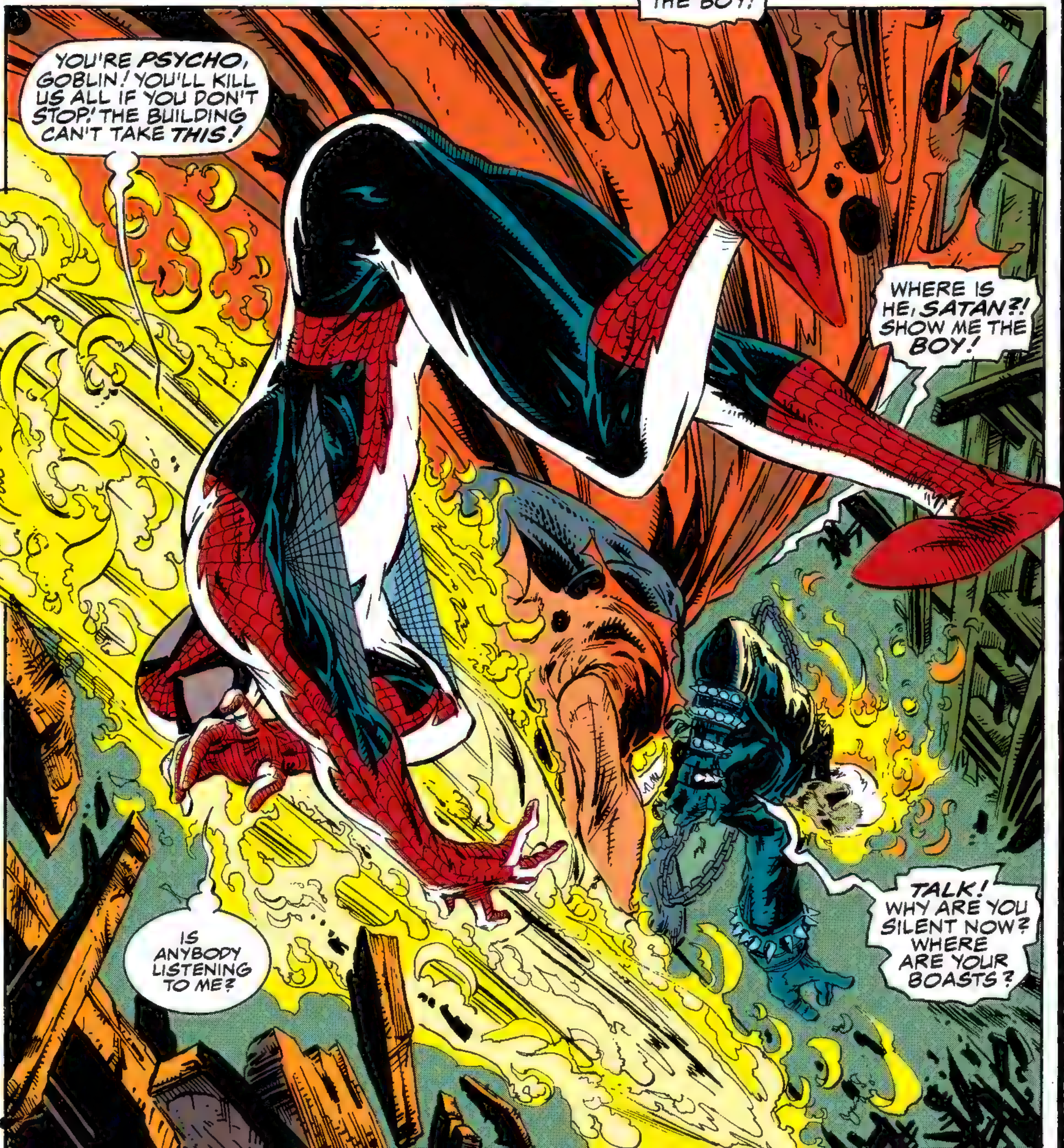
YOU
HAVE THE
CHILD!

NEVER! NEVER
WILL YOU CONVERT
THE BOY. HE IS
PURE. HE IS
TRUE.

ALL YOUR
LIES HAVE BEEN
EXPOSED
TO HIM.

HIS SOUL
IS MINE.

RETURN
THE BOY!




YOU'RE **PSYCHO**,
GOBLIN! YOU'LL KILL
US ALL IF YOU DON'T
STOP! THE BUILDING
CAN'T TAKE **THIS**!


WHERE IS
HE, **SATAN**?!
SHOW ME THE
BOY!

IS
ANYBODY
LISTENING
TO ME?

TALK!
WHY ARE YOU
SILENT NOW?
WHERE
ARE YOUR
BOASTS?

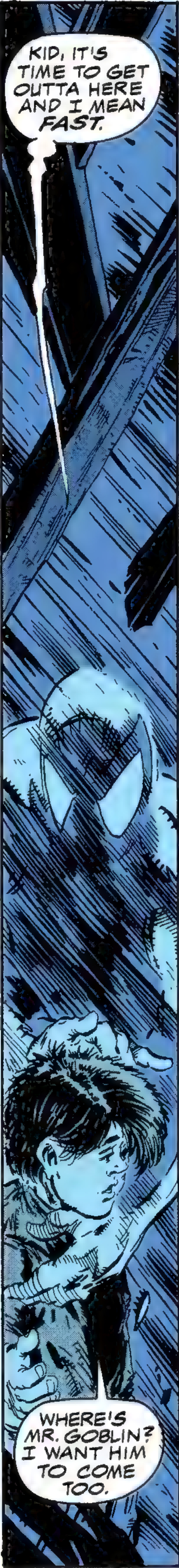


I SWEAR I'LL
KILL YOU, DEVIL!
NOW WHERE IS
THE BOY?!



DO NOT TRY
TO SCARE
ME.

BETTER
THAN YOU HAVE
TRIED. AND
FAILED.




KID, IT'S
TIME TO GET
OUTTA HERE
AND I MEAN
FAST.

WHERE'S
MR. GOBLIN?
I WANT HIM
TO COME
TOO.



DIE!

FOOL.

A full-page comic book illustration. Spider-Man is shown from the chest up, looking down with a concerned expression at a young boy who is lying on the ground. The boy has a skull-like face and is surrounded by a large, bright yellow and orange flame. The background is a scene of destruction with debris and a large, jagged pink and purple energy burst. Spider-Man's web is visible in the bottom foreground.


SPIDER-SENSE
TINGLING--NOW
WHAT!?

NOTHING
CAN STOP
ME.

I'M HERE
TO PROTECT THE
INNOCENT.

GHOST RIDER! THE
BOY AND I ARE LEAVING.
YOU WANT THE GOBLIN SO
BAD, HE'S YOURS. JUST
LET ME GET THIS
INNOCENT KID
OUTTA HERE.

EXCUSE
ME IF I'M NOT
STUNNED AT
YOUR RESULTS
SO FAR.



PREPARE YOURSELVES,
DEMONS!! YOU HAVE
PUSHED ME TO THE LIMITS,
SENT YOUR HORDES TO
TAUNT AND RIDICULE MY
LOOKS. BUT I'VE ELIMI-
NATED THEM ONE
BY ONE.

NO LONGER WILL
THEY SPEAK THEIR LIES
THAT I HAVE THE **MARK**
OF THE DEVIL. THEIR EVIL
WAYS ARE NO MORE. STILL,
YOU SEEK TO **CORRUPT**
THE CHILD. HE AND I WILL
DIE FOR OUR CAUSE,
BEFORE THE LIKES OF
YOU POSSESS US.

I GIVE YOU
ONE LAST CHANCE.
REPENT!
REPENT!

HE IS
TRULY
MAD.

BUD, YOU DON'T
KNOW THE HALF
OF IT. HE'S GONE
NUTS NOT
ACCEPTING HIS
CHANGE INTO
A **REAL**
GOBLIN.

MR. GOBLIN!
DOWN HERE!
PLEASE
HELP US!



LISTEN UP, KID--

SAY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME ANYWAY?

ADAM.

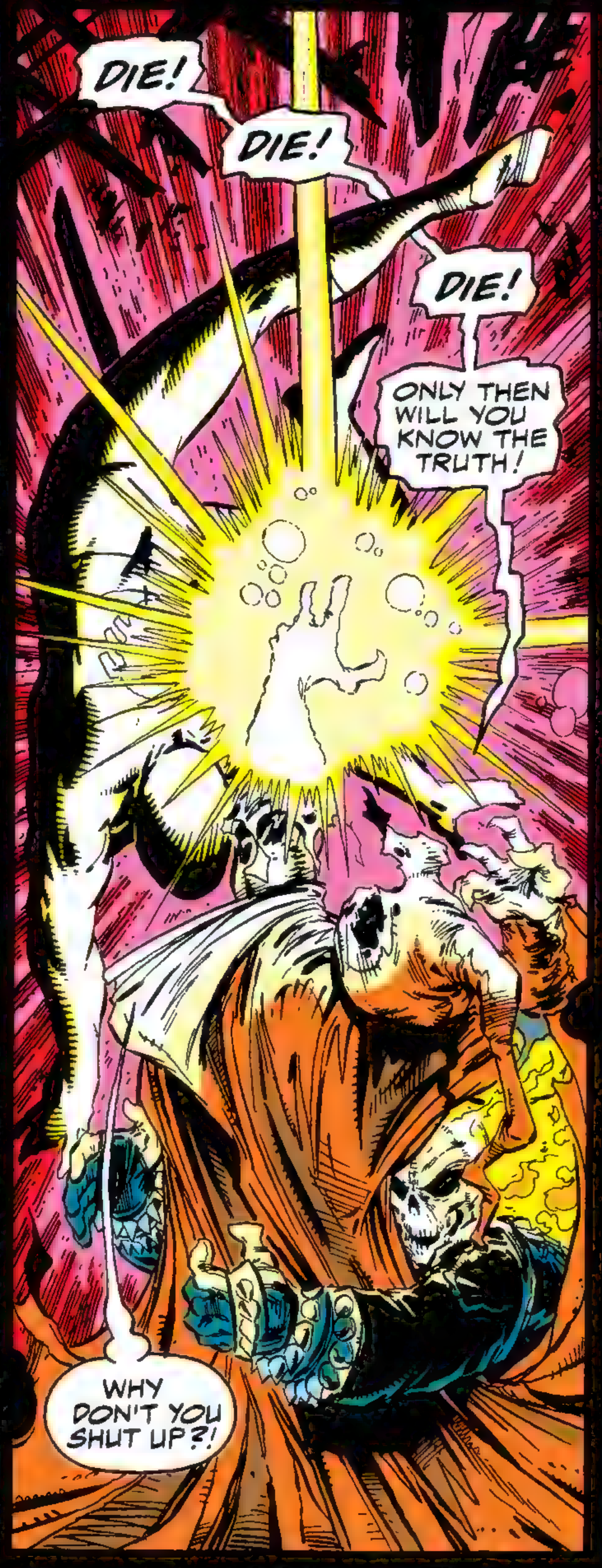
HOW APPROPRIATE.

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR GAMES. SO JUST STAY HERE AND DON'T MOVE A *MUSCLE*. IT'S TIME FOR ME TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE.

I'LL BE BACK WHEN I'M FINISHED WITH THIS MESS.



I HAVE THE POWER! I HAVE THE FAITH!



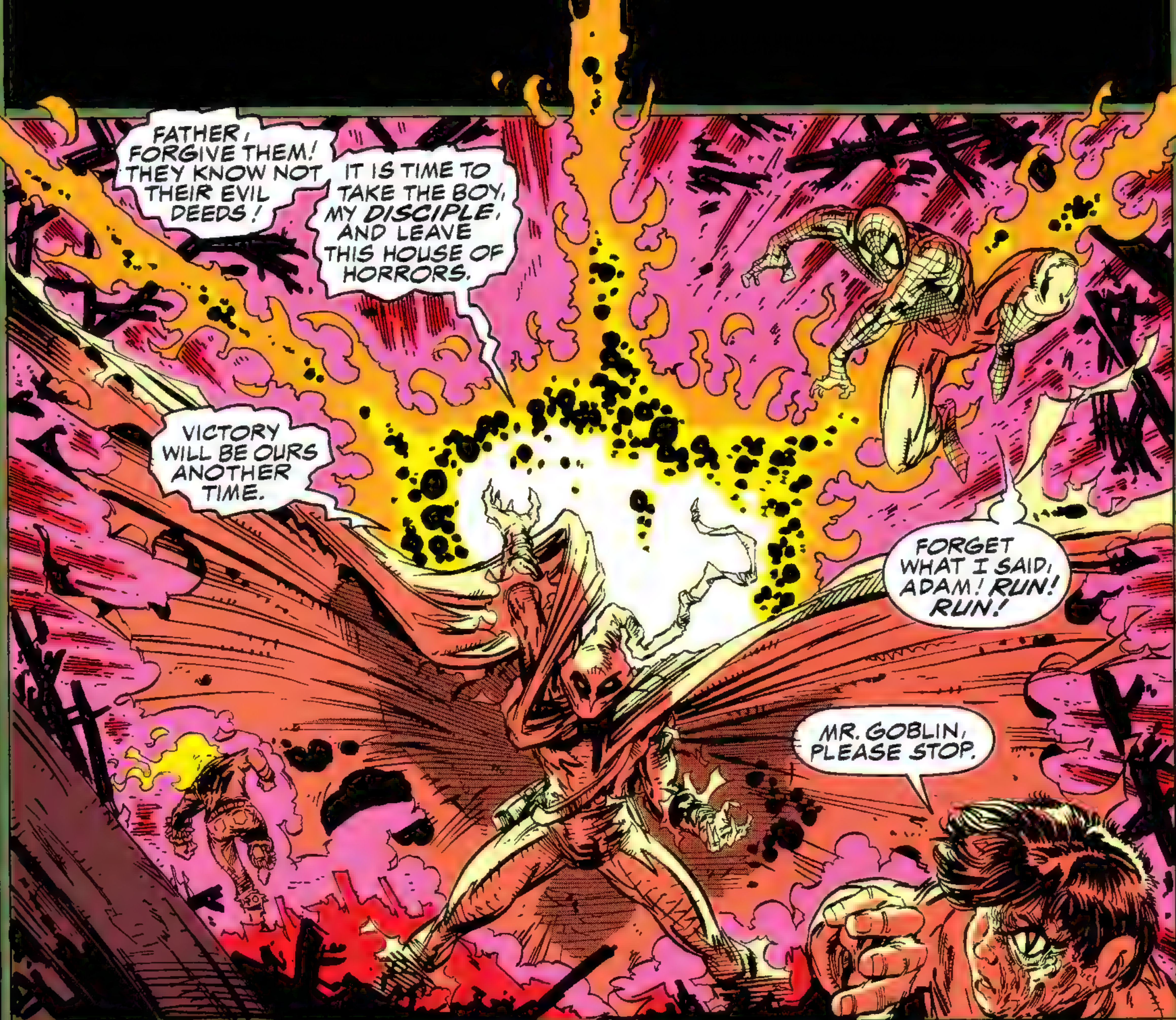
DIE!

DIE!

DIE!

ONLY THEN WILL YOU KNOW THE TRUTH!

WHY DON'T YOU SHUT UP?!



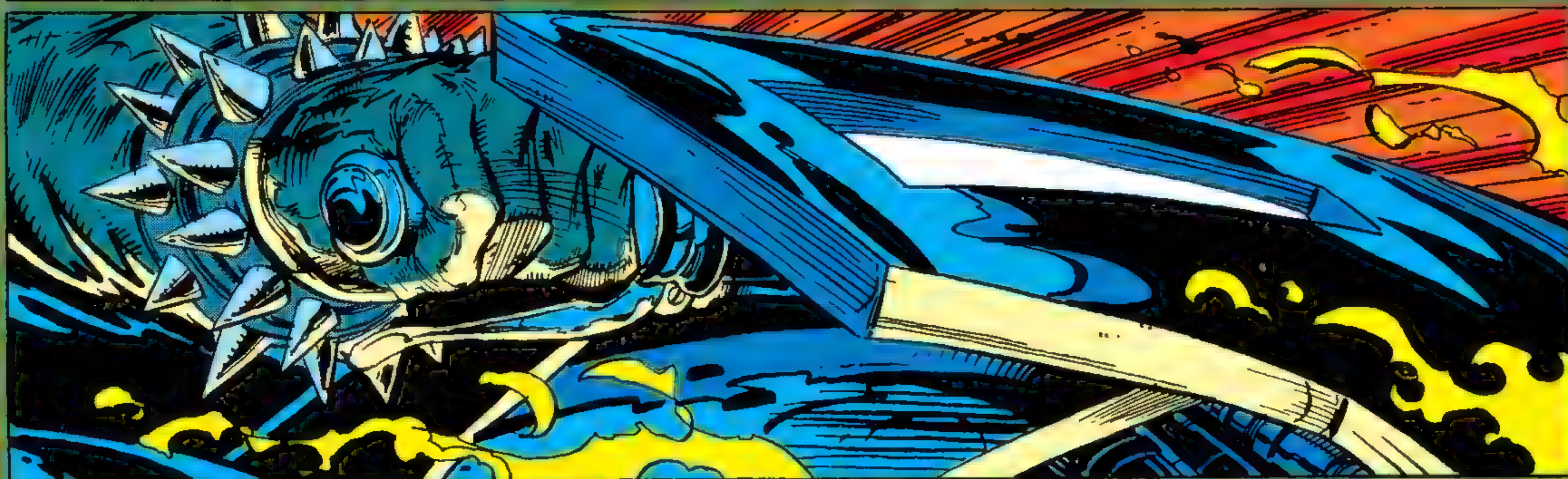
FATHER,
FORGIVE THEM!
THEY KNOW NOT
THEIR EVIL
DEEDS!

IT IS TIME TO
TAKE THE BOY,
MY DISCIPLE,
AND LEAVE
THIS HOUSE OF
HORRORS.

VICTORY
WILL BE OURS
ANOTHER
TIME.

FORGET
WHAT I SAID,
ADAM! RUN!
RUN!

MR. GOBLIN,
PLEASE STOP.



I'M SORRY,
CHILD, BUT WE CAN
NEVER STOP. OUR
CAUSE--OUR MISSION
WILL FOREVER BE
CHALLENGED. WE
CANNOT LET OUR
MINDS AND BODIES
BE WEAKENED.

ENDURANCE--

--AND FAITH.

THEY SHALL
GUIDE US TO A
BETTER WORLD, A
BETTER WAY.

YOUR MOTHER
WOULD BE SO
PROUD OF YOU--
UH--

ADAM.

ADAM?!
OF
COURSE.

THANK YOU,
FATHER. YOUR
RIGHTEOUS
WAYS AGAIN
HUMBLE ME.

COME, ADAM. LET'S GO
MAKE A NEW GARDEN.
WHERE ALL THINGS GOOD
SHALL DWELL AND PEOPLE
WILL LIVE FOREVER.

THAT'S
WHERE YOU SENT
MY MOMMY,
RIGHT?

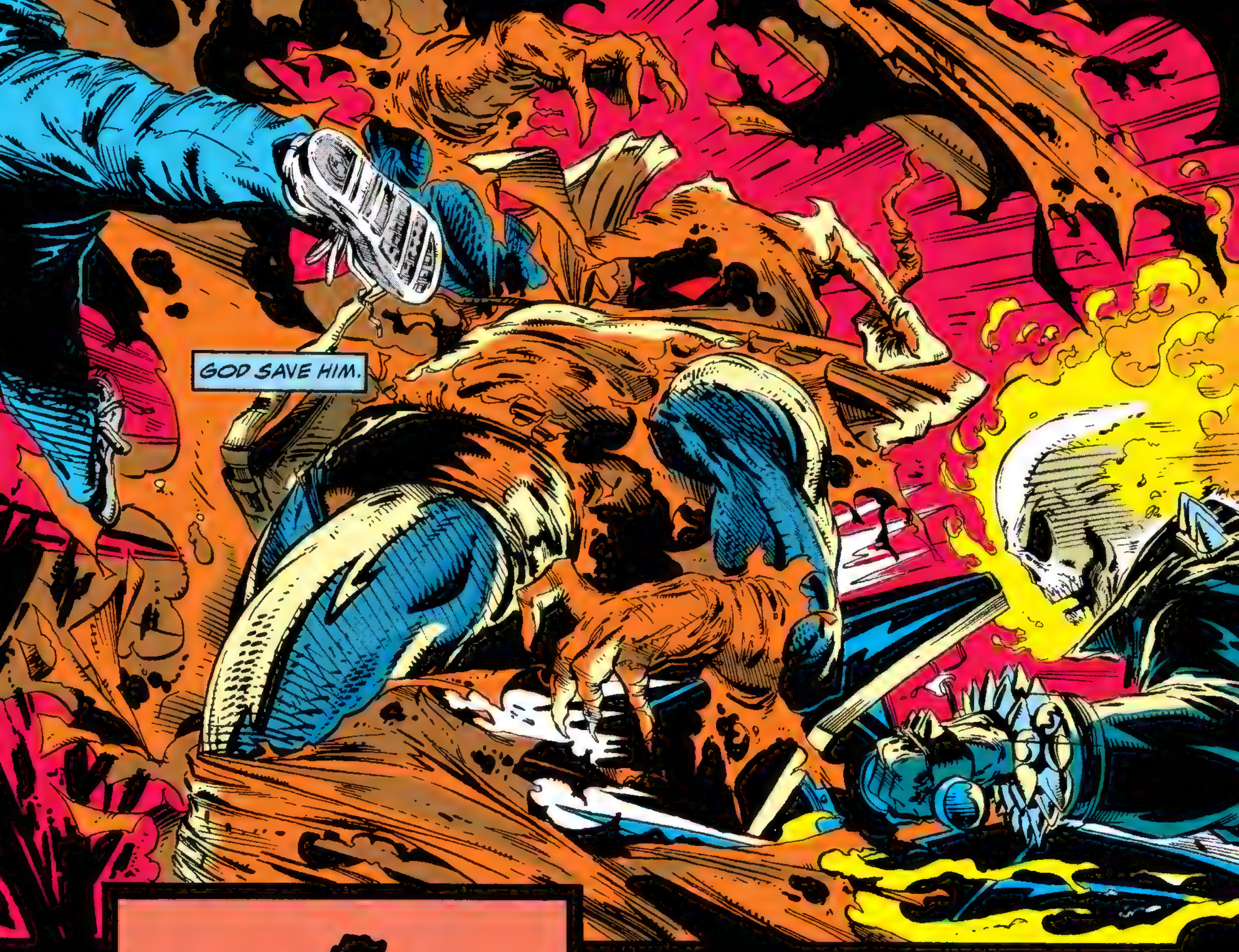
YOUR MOTHER
WAS NOT ONE OF
US, DEAR CHILD.

LET US
PRAY.

NO. NO.

GHOST RIDER!
HE HAS THE BOY!
SLOW DOWN! YOU'RE
GOING TO KILL 'EM!
CAN'T YOU SEE HE
HAS THE BOY?!

THE
BOY.

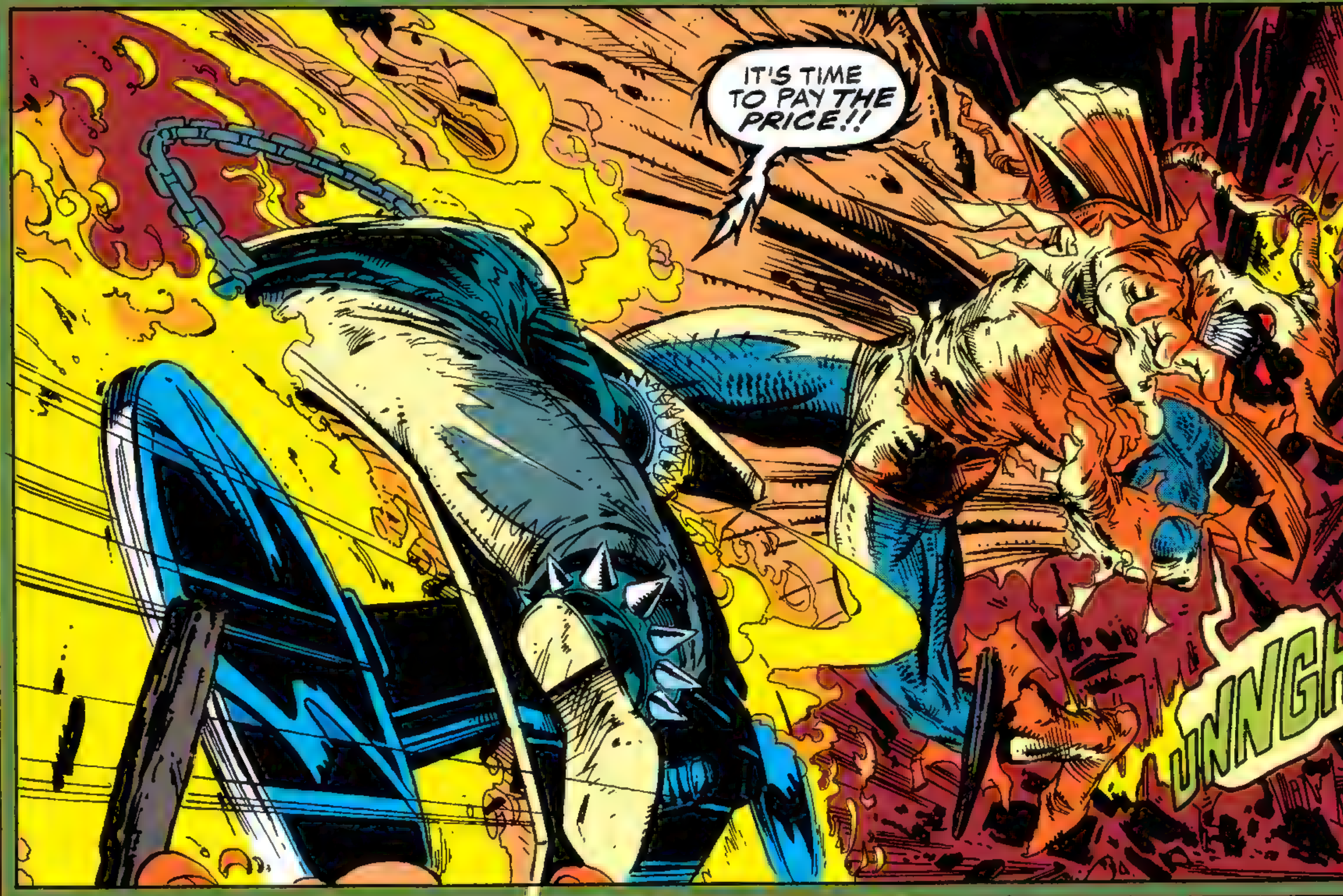
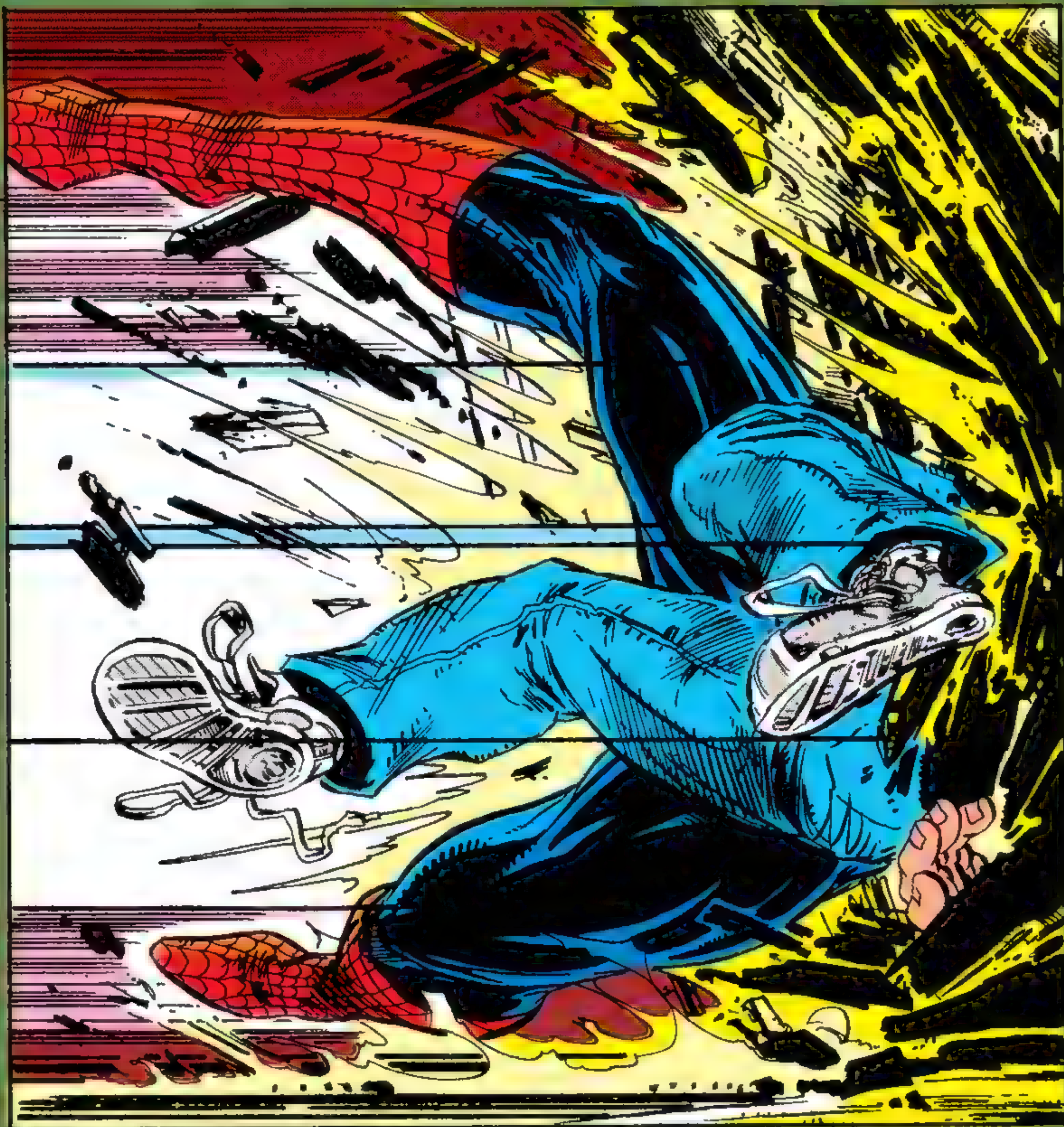


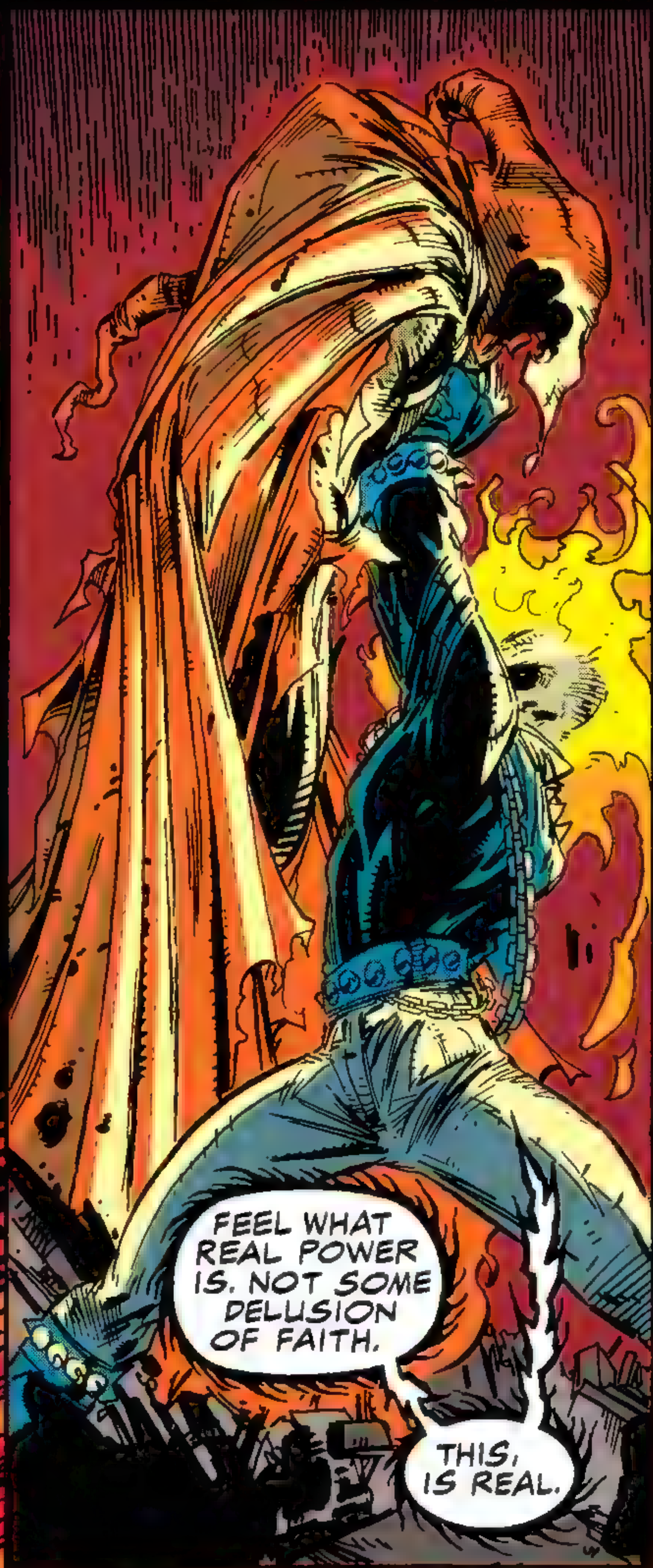
GOD SAVE HIM.



NO.

NOT GOD.





FEEL WHAT
REAL POWER
IS. NOT SOME
DELUSION
OF FAITH.

THIS,
IS REAL.



**BACK
OFF!**

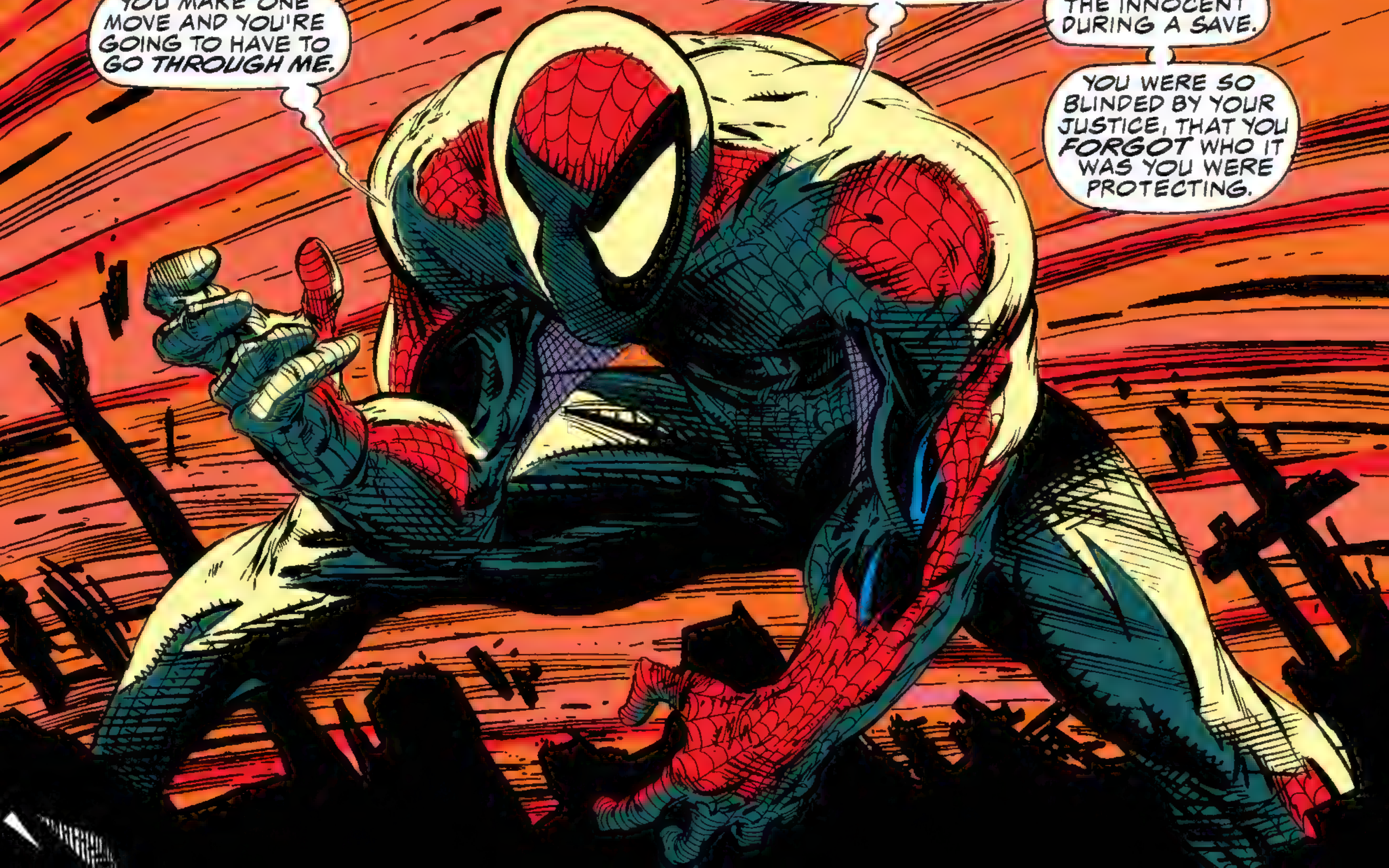
THE GOBLIN'S
OUT COLD,
'RIDER.

YOU MAKE ONE
MOVE AND YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE TO
GO THROUGH ME.

CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT'S
HAPPENING? WE'RE THE
HEROES! DO YOU UNDER-
STAND? WE SAVE THE INNO-
CENT AT ANY COST.

NOT COST
THE INNOCENT
DURING A SAVE.

YOU WERE SO
BLINDED BY YOUR
JUSTICE, THAT YOU
FORGOT WHO IT
WAS YOU WERE
PROTECTING.



YOU'RE GOOD, 'RIDER, BUT NOT THAT GOOD. YOU STILL NEED TO LEARN THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN YOU.

YEAH, IT'S OUR JOB TO STOP CREEPS LIKE THE GOBLIN, BUT OUR MAIN GOAL--

--OUR MAIN CONCERN, IS TO PROTECT--

--THE ADAMS OF THIS WORLD.

HE'S GOING TO NEED MEDICAL HELP.

THEN FIND IT. BUT SOMEDAY THE HOBGOBLIN WON'T HAVE YOU THERE TO SAVE HIM.

THEN I'LL HAVE MY VENGEANCE.

GOOD-BYE--

--HERO.

A full-page comic book illustration. Spider-Man is shown from the waist up, leaning back with his head tilted and eyes closed. He is wearing his iconic red and blue suit. The background is a chaotic scene of fire and falling debris, suggesting a battle or destruction. In the bottom left corner, a portion of Wolverine's face is visible, looking towards Spider-Man.

HE DOESN'T
GET IT.

PLAYING SUPER HERO
ISN'T A GAME. IT'S FATE.
WE CHOOSE TO DO
GOOD. CHOOSE
TO DO BAD.

WE HAD A
CHOICE.

BUT YOU DIDN'T, DID
YOU, ADAM? YOUR
MOM IS GONE. I HOPE
WE CAN FIND YOUR DAD.
PUT YOUR LIFE BACK
TOGETHER.

NOW YOU MUST
CHOOSE. LET THIS
RUIN YOUR LIFE OR
USE IT FOR SOME
POSITIVE PURPOSE.
THE DECISION WILL
PROVE JUST
WHO IS--

"--THE
REAL
HERO."

WOLVERINE!

MARVEL[®]
COMICS

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\$1.75 US
\$2.25 CAN

8
MAR
UK 85p

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE

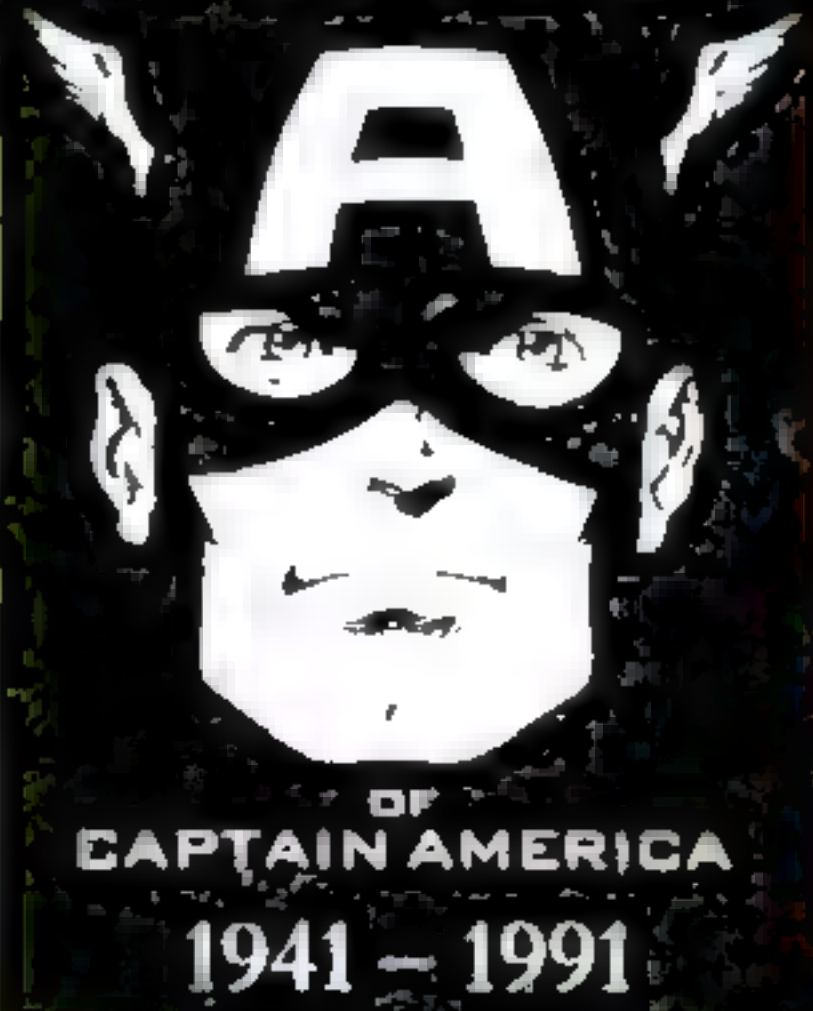
CA
AUTHORITY

"PERCEPTIONS" PART 1 OF 5

SPIDER-MAN[®]



50
YEARS



McFARLANE

ARTIST • TODD McFARLANE
WRITER •

Routine. That's what it was supposed to be. A routine story.

I'd been sent to cover the possible conflict between loggers and environmentalists as the chain saws got ever closer to another old growth forest.

Support to protect the thousand-year-old trees was strong all across British Columbia. The people had another cause to rally behind.

Yet, unknown to me, it was not the giant trees' continued existence, nor the loggers' fight to keep their jobs that would become the Story.

LETTERS: RICK PARKER COLOR: GREGORY WRIGHT

Instead the forest had unlocked one of its hidden doors and released a mysterious, evil legend.

EDITOR • JIM SALICRUP EDITOR IN CHIEF • TOM DeFALCO

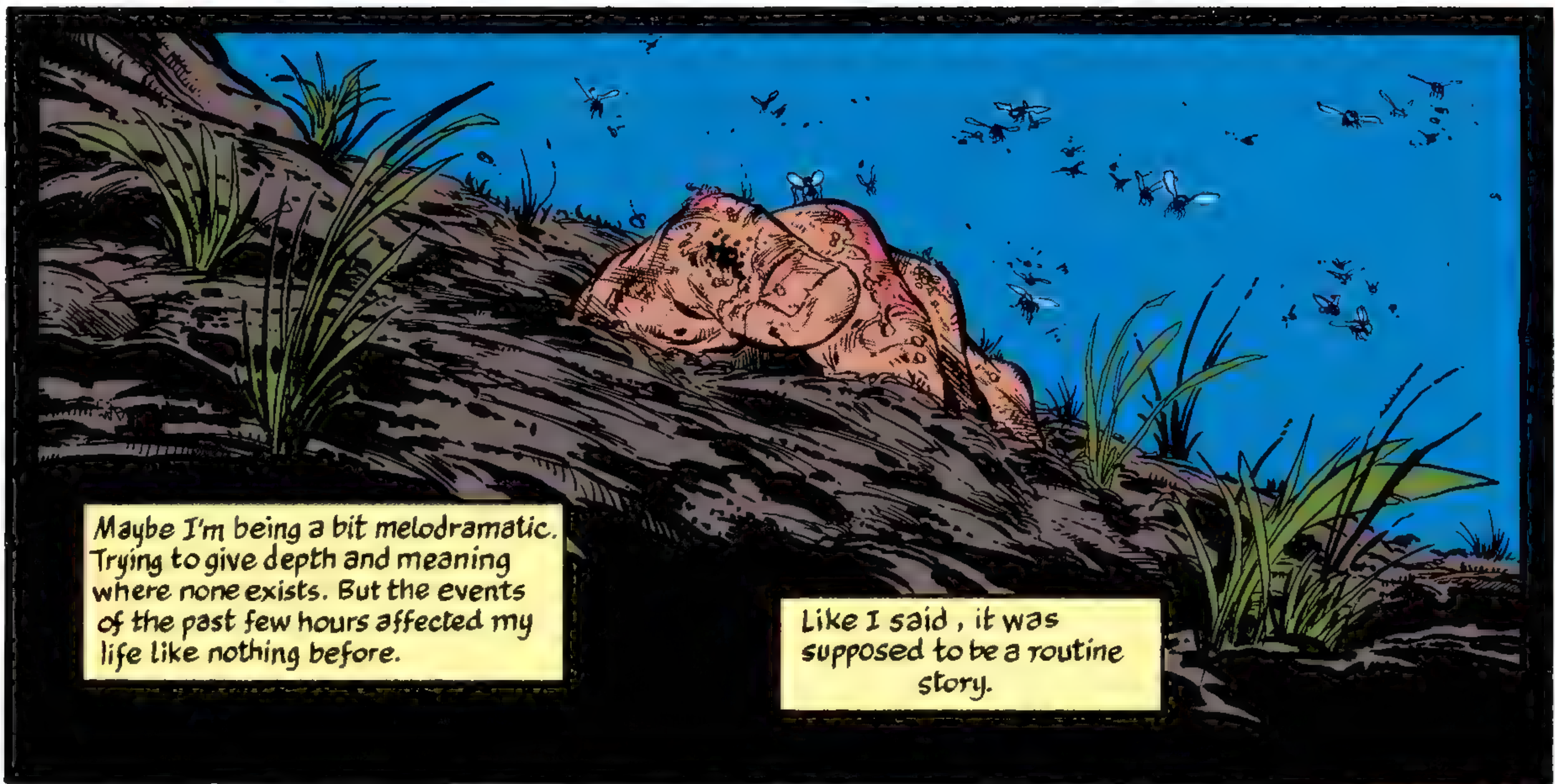
I now realize that the dark forests that surround everyone's town, survive with their own rules. their own unknown purpose.

Stan
Lee
PRESENTS:

PERCEPTIONS

PART

ONE



Maybe I'm being a bit melodramatic. Trying to give depth and meaning where none exists. But the events of the past few hours affected my life like nothing before.

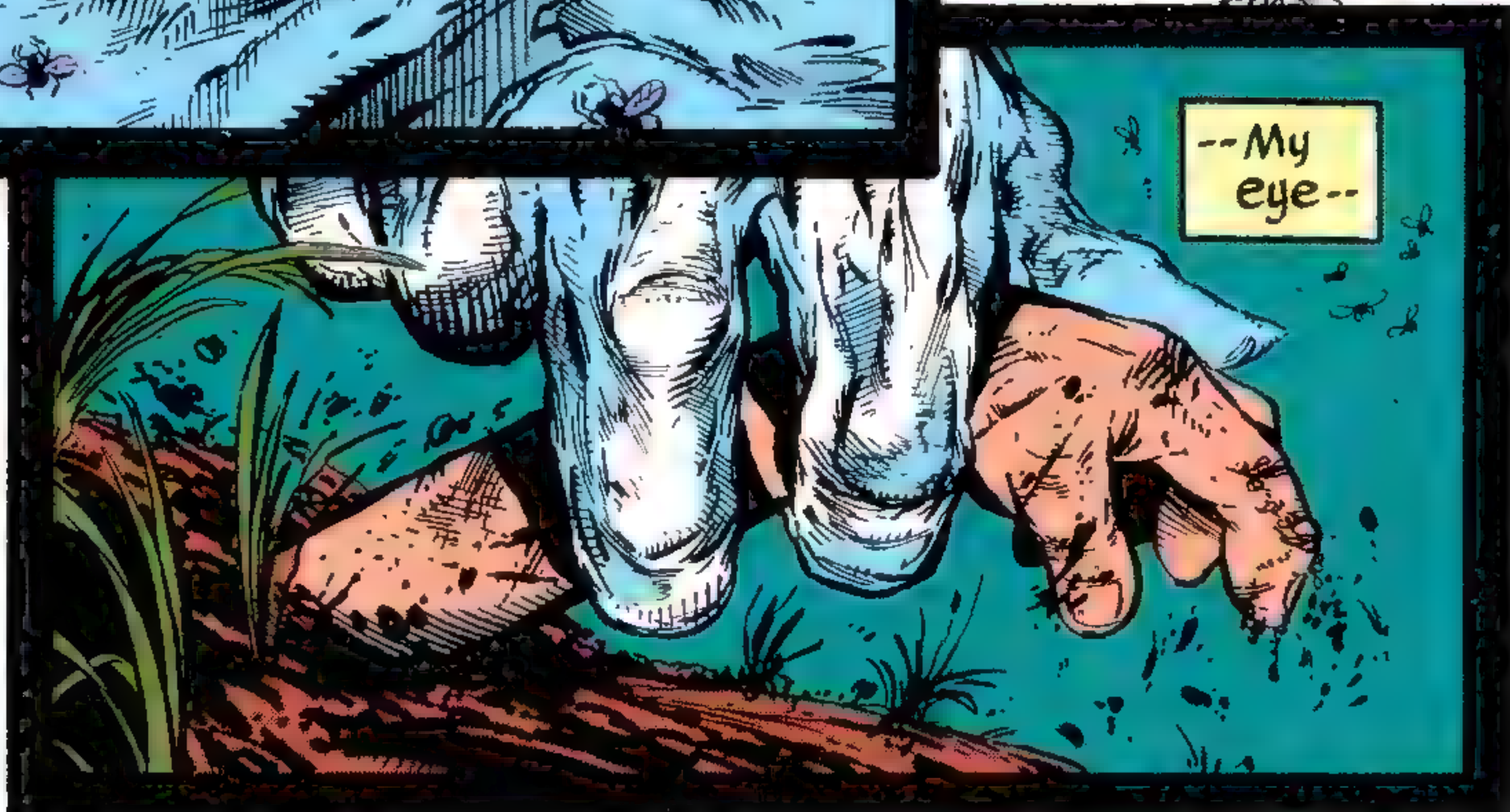
Like I said, it was supposed to be a routine story.



Trees. Loggers. Environmentalists. We've heard it all before.



But in the blink of an eye--



--My eye--

-- The mundane took a sickening twist.



Before I get too far ahead of myself, let me tell you how the events unfolded.

It was about 12:15 a.m. A long day on the road and a late dinner was putting me into Hope, B.C., later than I'd wanted.

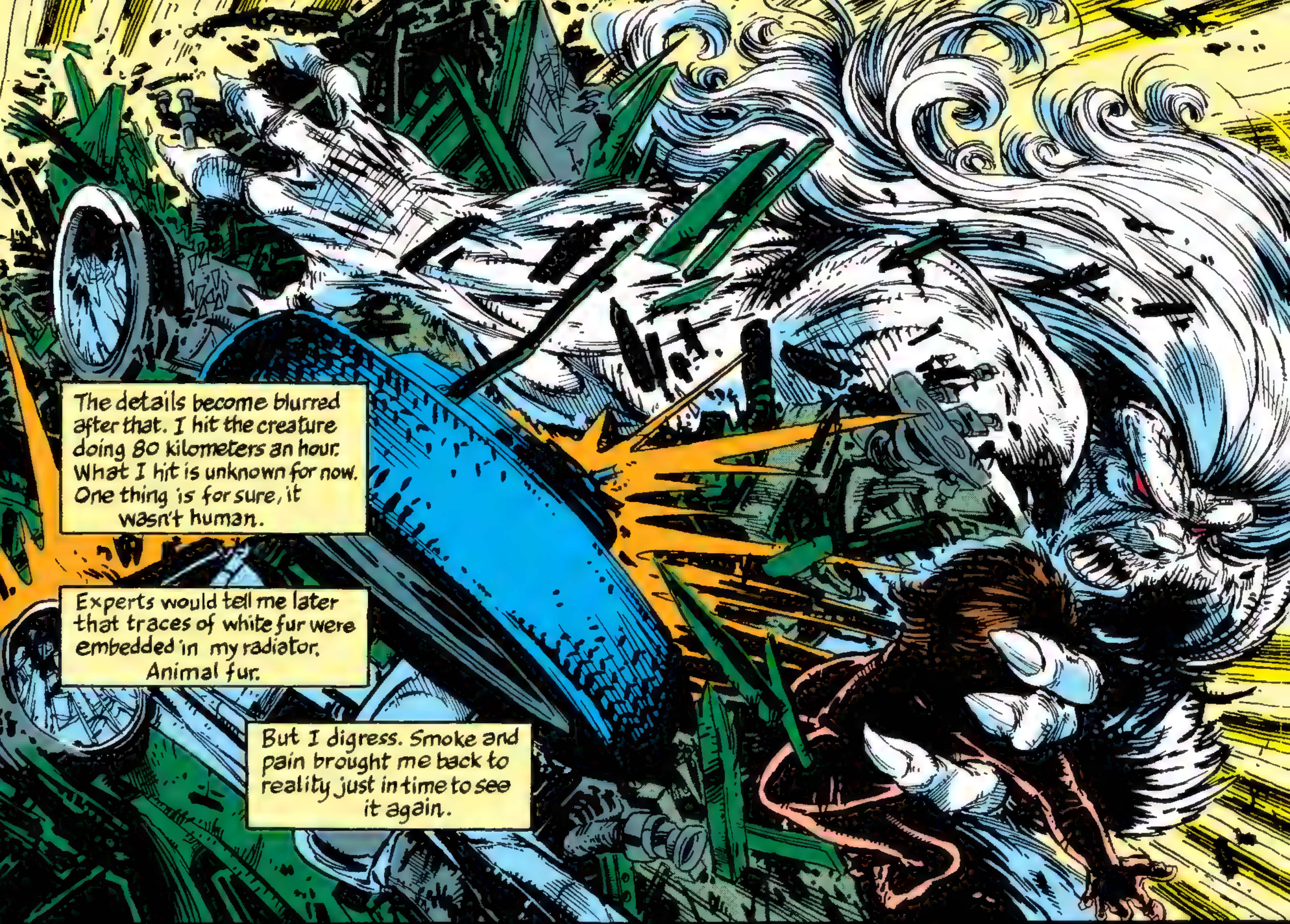
The story of my life.

Suddenly, through the midnight fog, I spotted a figure standing in the middle of the road.

That quick assessment nearly cost me my life.

Another darn hitchhiker. Always looking for others to complete their journey.

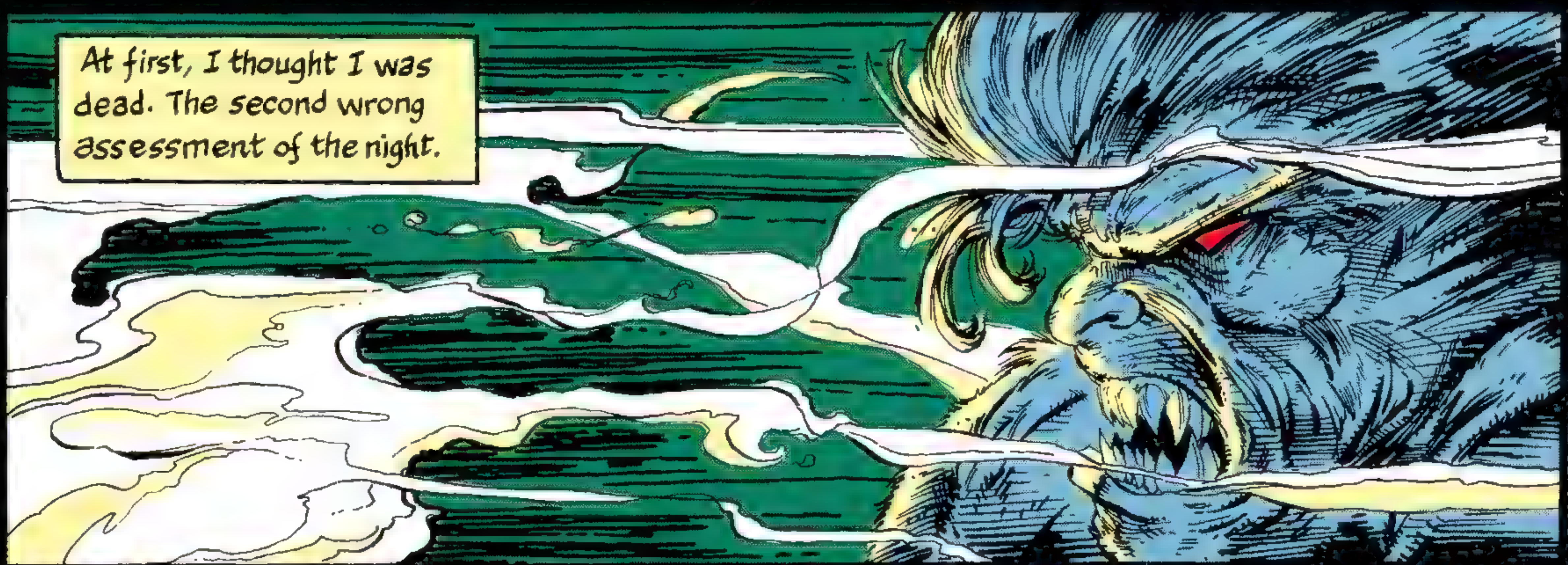
And my story.



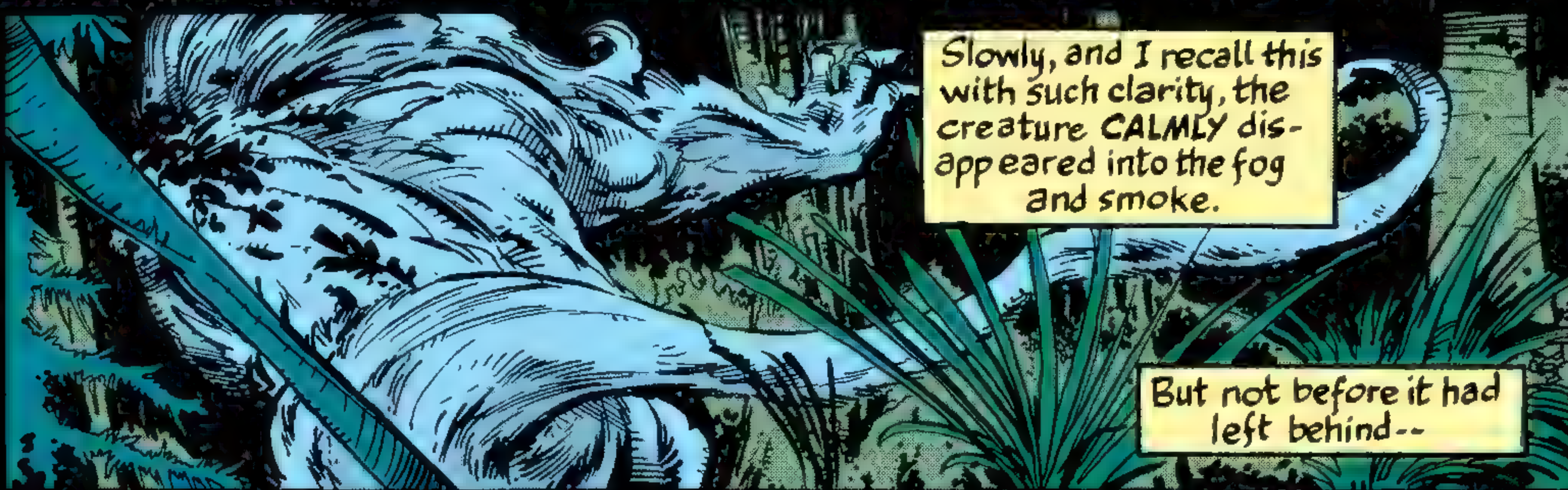
The details become blurred after that. I hit the creature doing 80 kilometers an hour. What I hit is unknown for now. One thing is for sure, it wasn't human.

Experts would tell me later that traces of white fur were embedded in my radiator. Animal fur.

But I digress. Smoke and pain brought me back to reality just in time to see it again.



At first, I thought I was dead. The second wrong assessment of the night.



Slowly, and I recall this with such clarity, the creature **CALMLY** disappeared into the fog and smoke.

But not before it had left behind--



-- a message.

What it had left was the remains of eleven-year-old David Neusel.

BIGFOOT KILLS BOY

I, Anna Brooks, had just set in motion the wheels of hysteria.

Naked. Decayed. Mutilated almost beyond recognition. The body of this tiny child looked no better than a road kill.

For the first time in my life I prayed.

When the authorities arrived, I could barely give them a complete sentence. They questioned me well into the morning. The first deliberate thing I did, almost upon instinct, was call my editor.

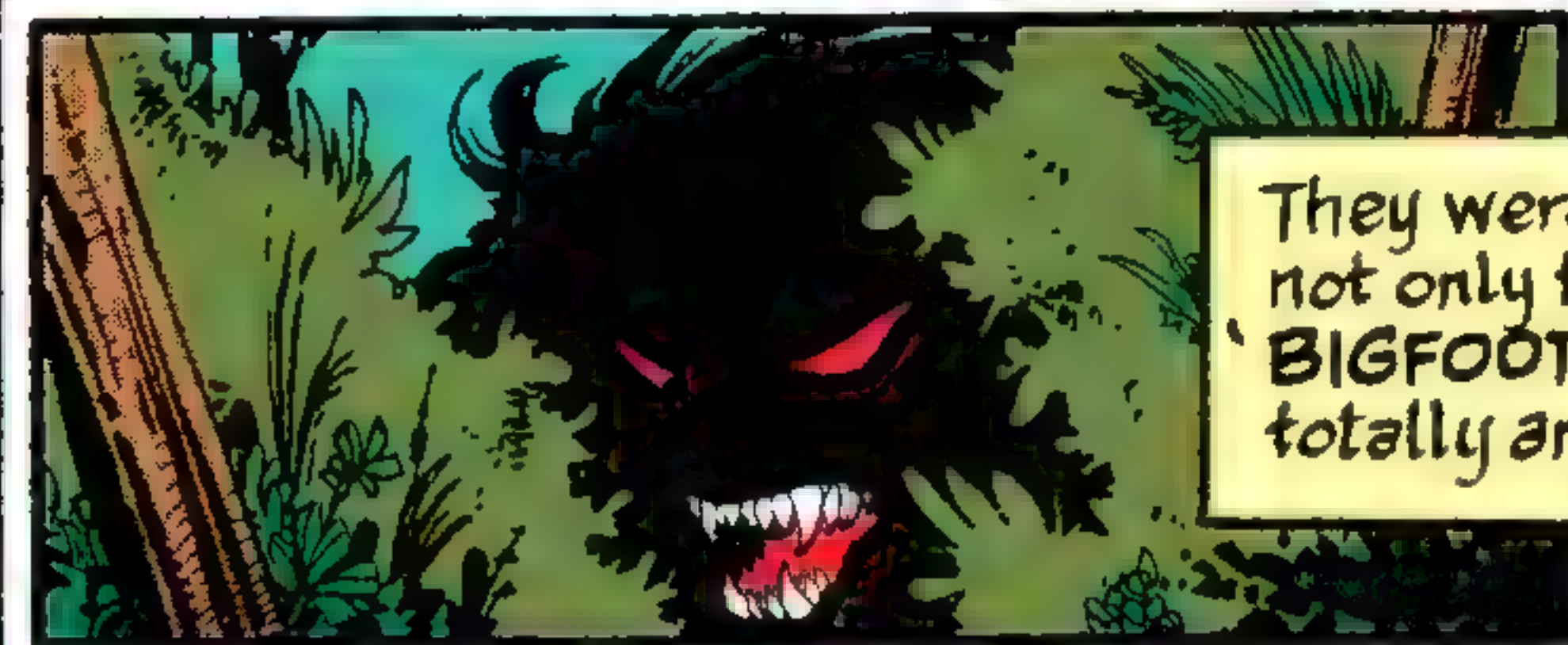
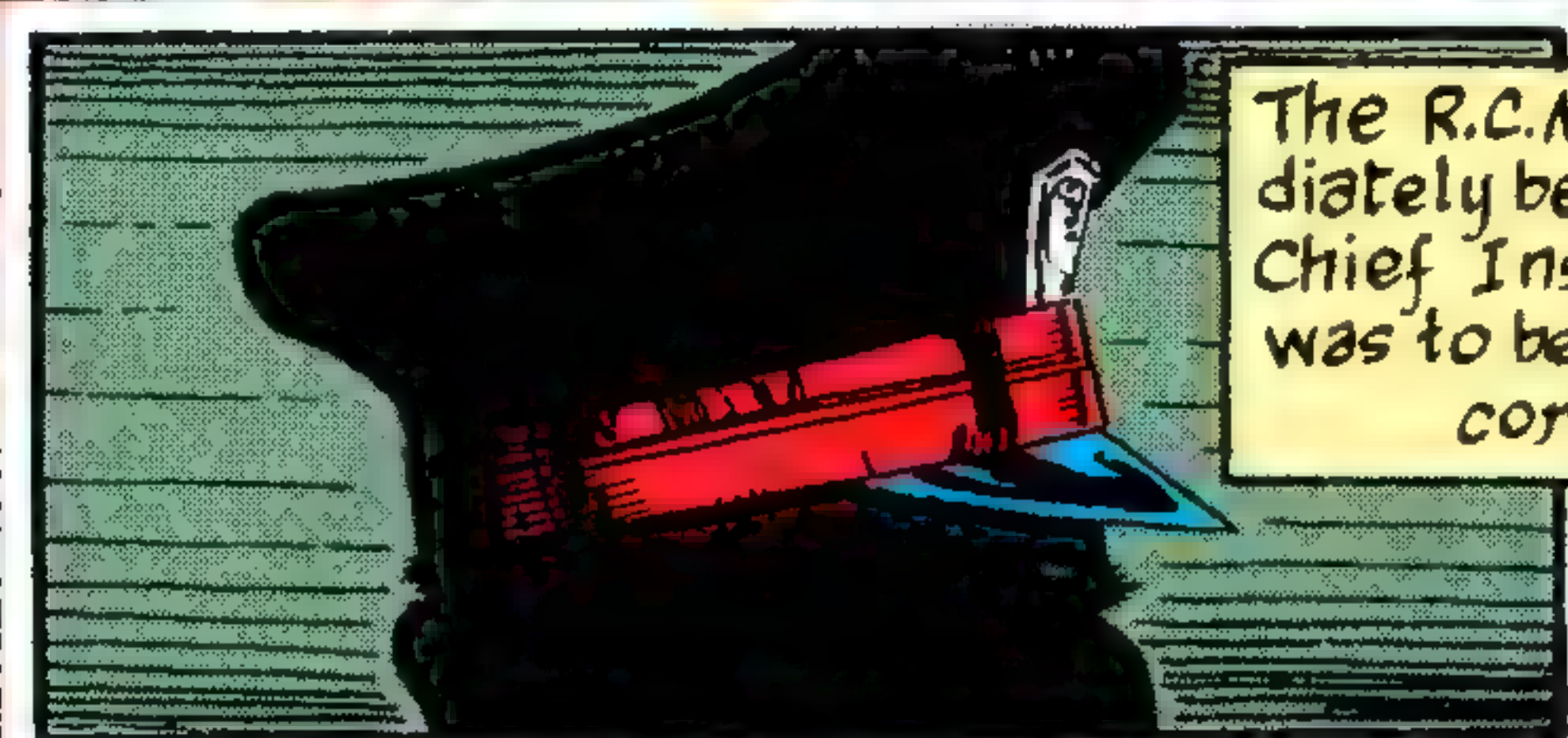
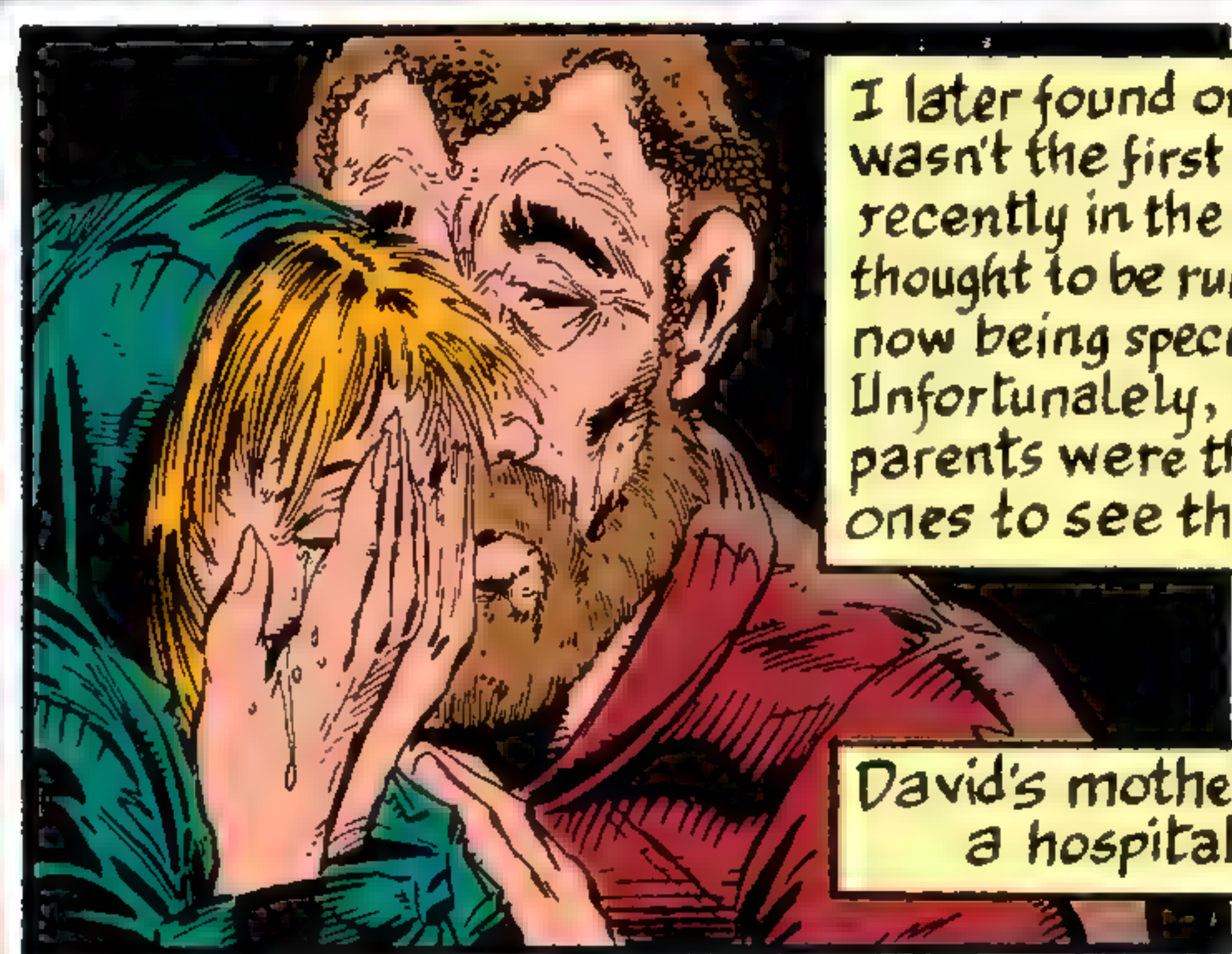
I later found out David wasn't the first child missing recently in the valley. Others thought to be runaways were now being speculated upon. Unfortunately, David's parents were the only ones to see the results.

David's mother is now in a hospital.

The R.C.M.P. immediately began a search. Chief Inspector Krahn was to be the media's contact.

Besides the police, what seemed like every male with a gun also began his own search.

They were determined not only to kill the 'BIGFOOT' but to totally annihilate it.

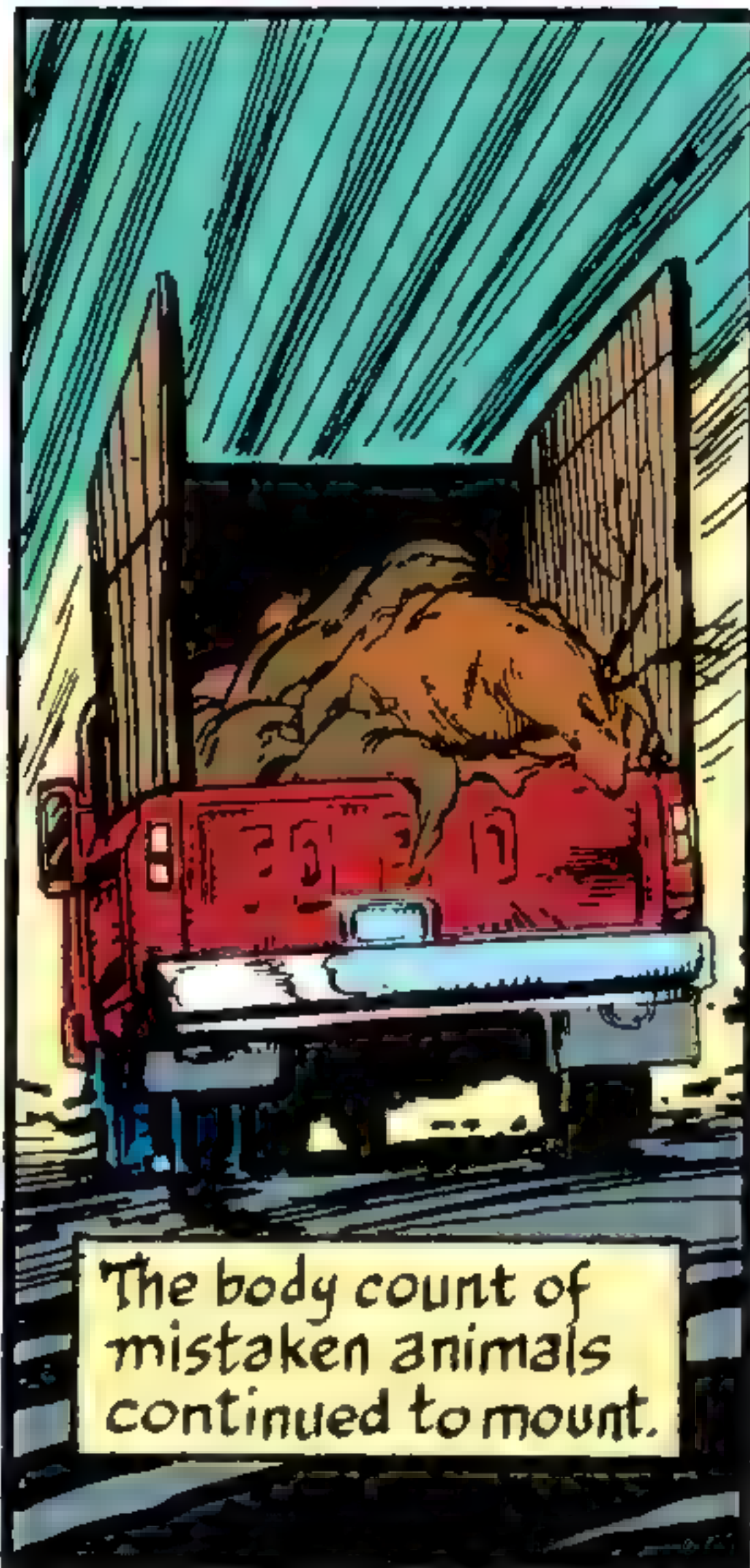




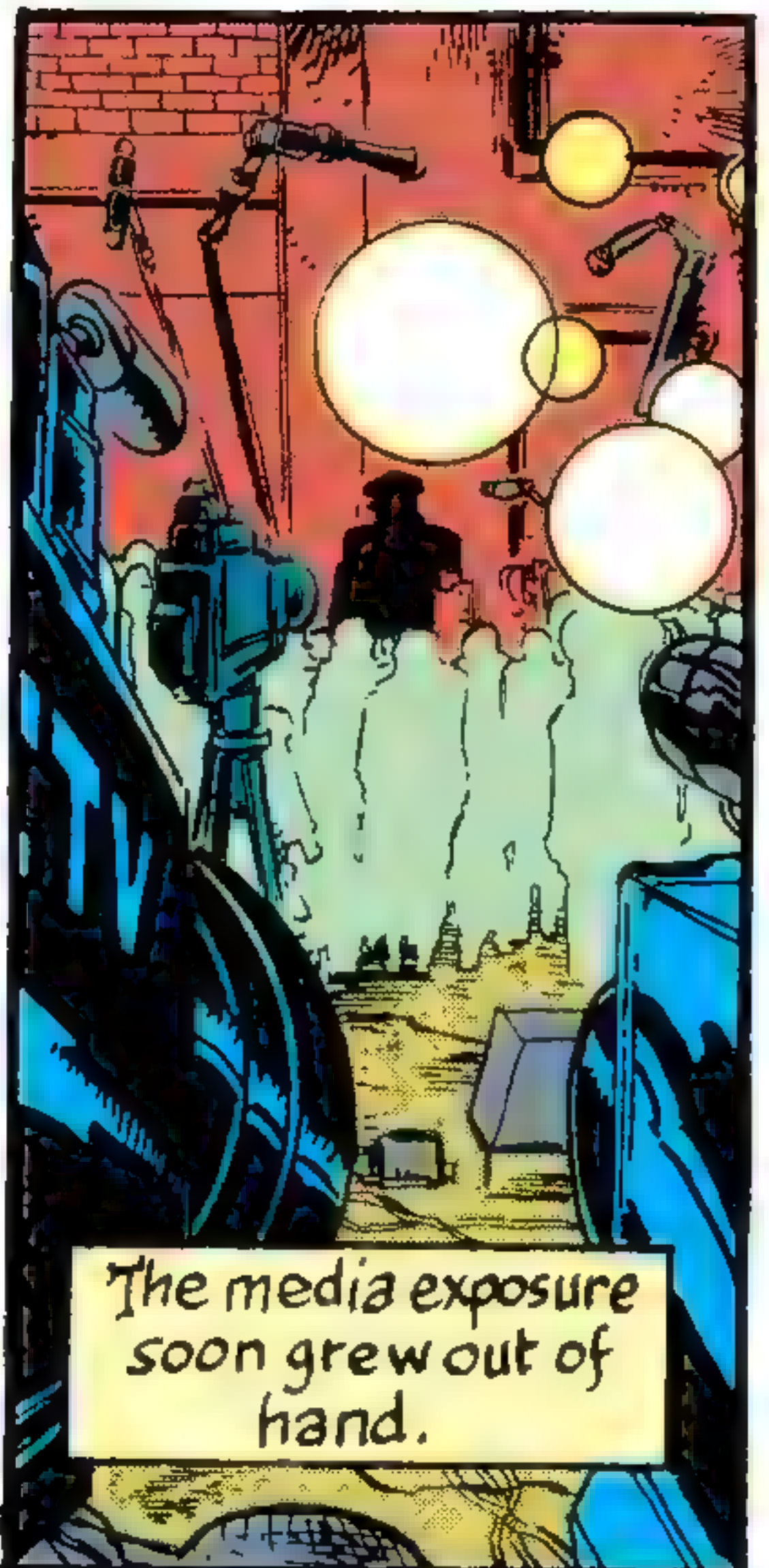
For the next few days everything became a target. Paranoia replaced logic.



The rules were simple. Anything that moved was shot.



The body count of mistaken animals continued to mount.



The media exposure soon grew out of hand.



(50 cents minimum outside Lower Mainland)

The Vancouver Sun

Before we had any answers to David Neusel's murder, a whole new set of questions and fears surfaced.

Bigfoot Kills Again?

Even more frightening was that another young boy had disappeared.



What had started as a local Vancouver story about old trees, had quickly turned into the news sensation of the year. It spread across Canada, soon



Calgary Herald

Combine this with activists out to protect the senseless slaughter of wildlife. Environmentalists still trying to save the trees. Loggers. More police. Scientists. Even more media.

Sasquatch on Rampage

Little more was seen when victims were shot.

Little more was seen when victims were shot.

You can begin to grasp the utter chaotic state that this Fraser Valley community was now faced with.

Los Angeles Post

The tragic death of young David Neusel had been turned into a Circus.

BIGFOOT VICTIM STILL MISSING

Complete with crowds, lights, and someone to call the ringleader.

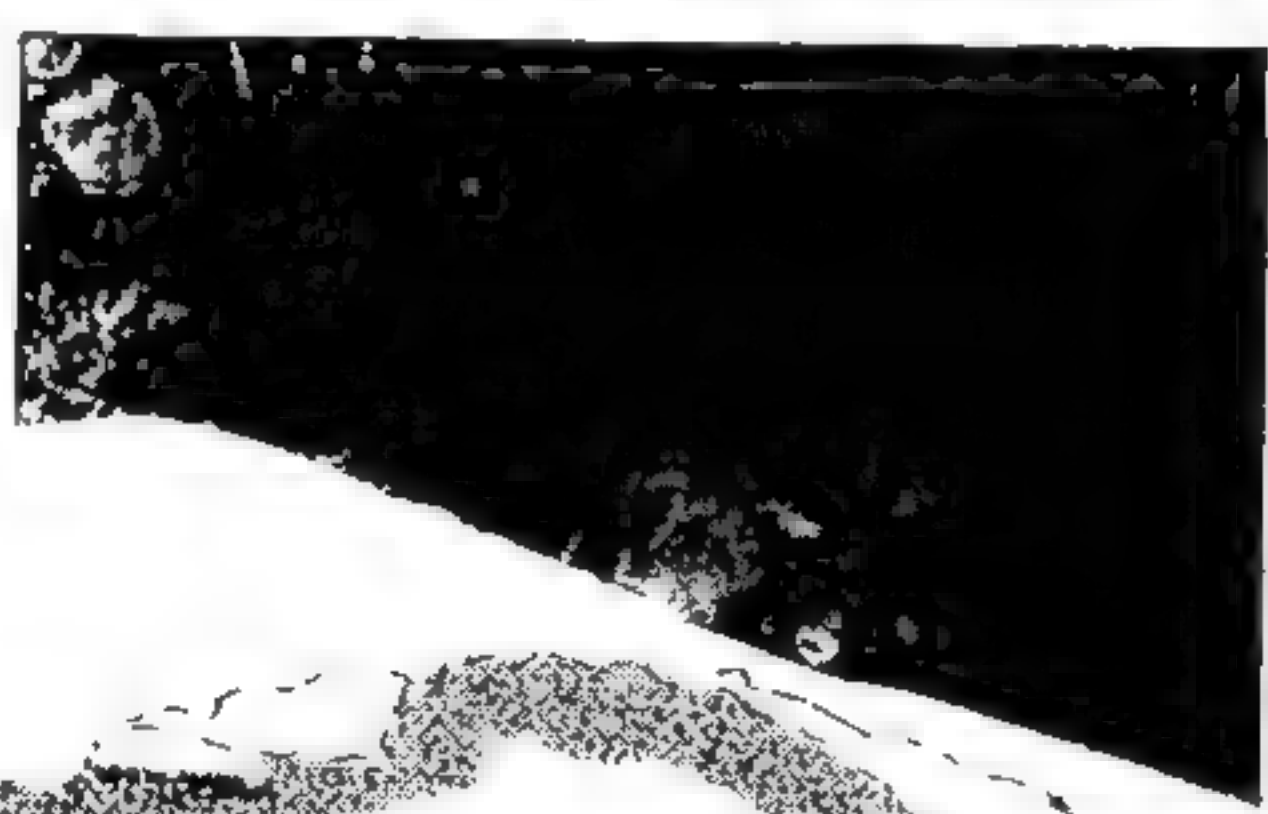
Weather

Today: Cloudy with rain possible High 40 Low 40 Wind 8-16 mph
Tuesday: Clear and windy High 53 Wind 8-16 mph
Wednesday: Temp range 40-56
AQI 25 Details on Page D2

The Washington Post

113TH YEAR No 363

Creature Still in Hiding




Grateful Germans Vote to Keep Kohl

Unification Key to

By Marc Fisher
Washington Post Foreign Service
BONN, Dec. 2—Germans from both sides of their formerly divided country today rewarded Helmut Kohl, 47, toward the smooth quick

I keep repeating "Anna Brooks, you were only doing your job."

East Germany is almost identical to that in the west. This means that all of Germany we are the ones trusted to take responsibility.
Challenger Oskar Lafontaine, 47, the Social Democrat who tried to



LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT.
YOU **ACCIDENTALLY** (emphasis mine) HAD A KNIFE UP TO THAT DEAR LITTLE OLD LADY'S THROAT BECAUSE SHE WAS GOING TO BUY IT AND COULDN'T READ THE BRAND NAME.

SOUNDS CONVINCING SO FAR.


WELL, NOW I'M WONDERING, **MR. GIN SU**, WHAT KIND OF DEAL YOU CAN CUT ME, GET IT?

I TELL YOU, MAN, SHE CAME UP TO ME FIRST. REGULAR CUSTOMER, YA KNOW?

OF KNIVES. I DOUBT IT.

S-SURE MAN, SHE'S THE WIFE OF THE LOCAL BUTCHER. THE WERE RECENTLY ROBBED AND-- COULD YOU MOVE IT A BIT TO THE LEFT, THANKS--

-- ANYWAYS, THEY WAS ROBBED AND NEEDED TO REPLACE SOME -- UH-- EQUIPMENT, MAN.



LISTEN UP, **MAN!** JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, THIS LIE IS GETTING WAY OUT OF HAND. I'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME ON YOUR TWO-BIT EXCUSES.



ALL I'M AFTER
IS A SIMPLE
CONFESSION.

SO HERE'RE
YOUR OPTIONS.
EITHER YOU TELL
ME THE TRUTH,
OR, WHEN AN
HOUR PASSES--

--these webs
will dissolve--

--AT WHICH TIME, YOU WILL
FIND YOURSELF SWIMMING
FACE FIRST IN GARBAGE. I
HIGHLY RECOMMEND YOU
DECIDE QUICKLY.

'CAUSE
ACCORDING
TO MY WATCH,
YOUR TIME IS
JUST ABOUT--

HONESTLY,
I DIDN'T--

--UP--

--OR SHOULD
I SAY DOWN?

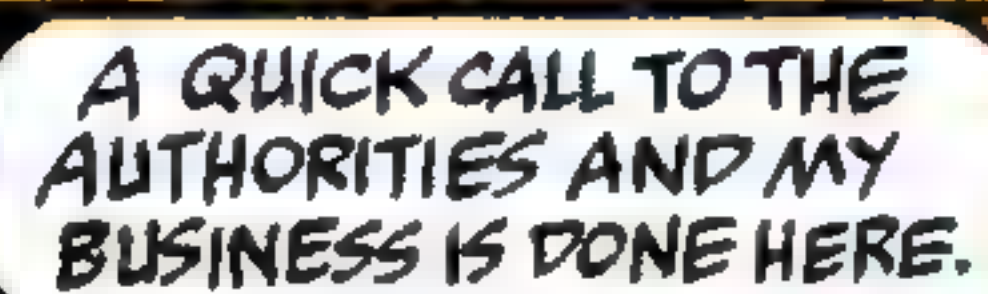
UNG!

PERFECT!

ALMOST
ONE HOUR TO
THE SECOND.
FILTH HAS
JUST MET
FILTH.

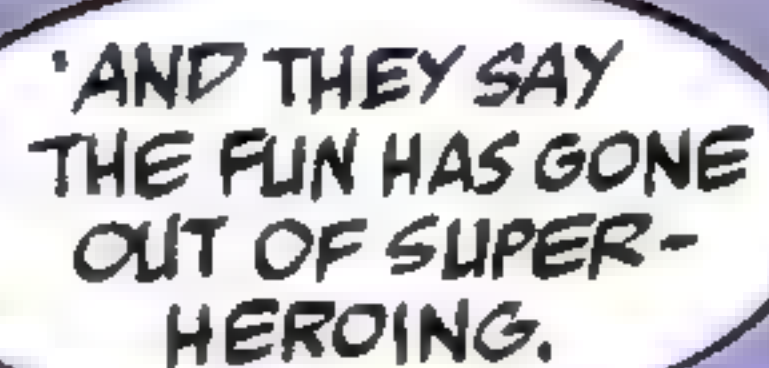


I HAVE TO ADMIT,
THAT WAS A PRETTY
AWESOME BELLY-
FLOP.

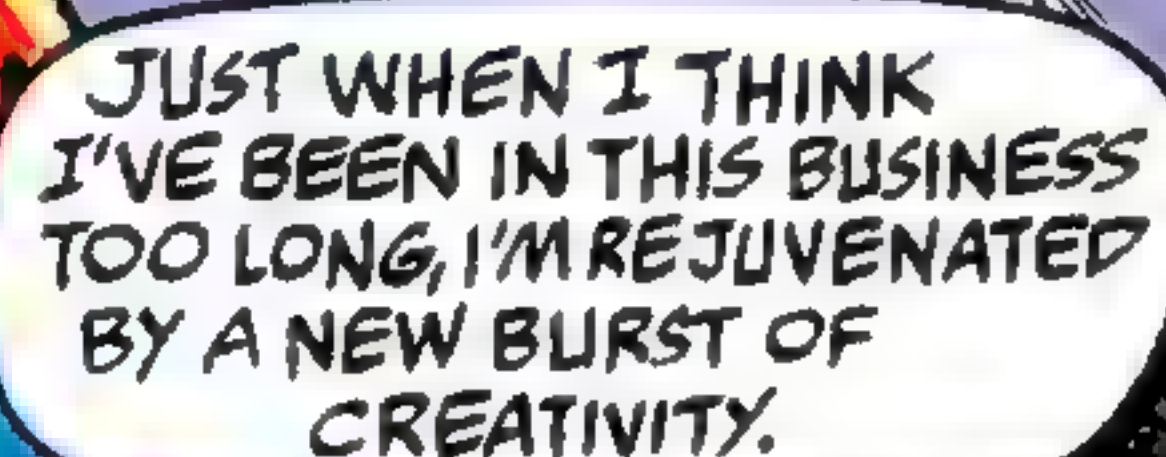


A QUICK CALL TO THE
AUTHORITIES AND MY
BUSINESS IS DONE HERE.

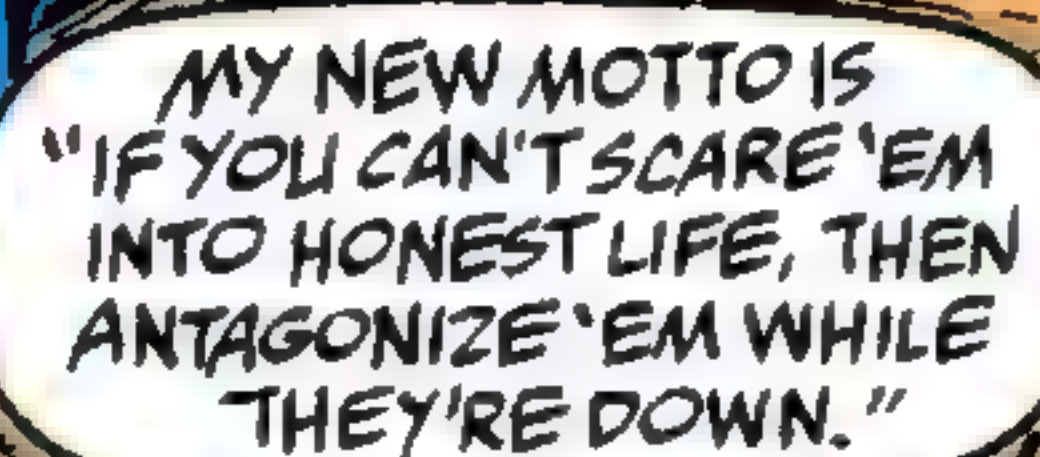
A CALL LATER...



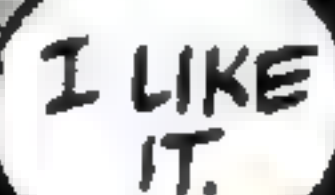
'AND THEY SAY
THE FUN HAS GONE
OUT OF SUPER-
HEROING.



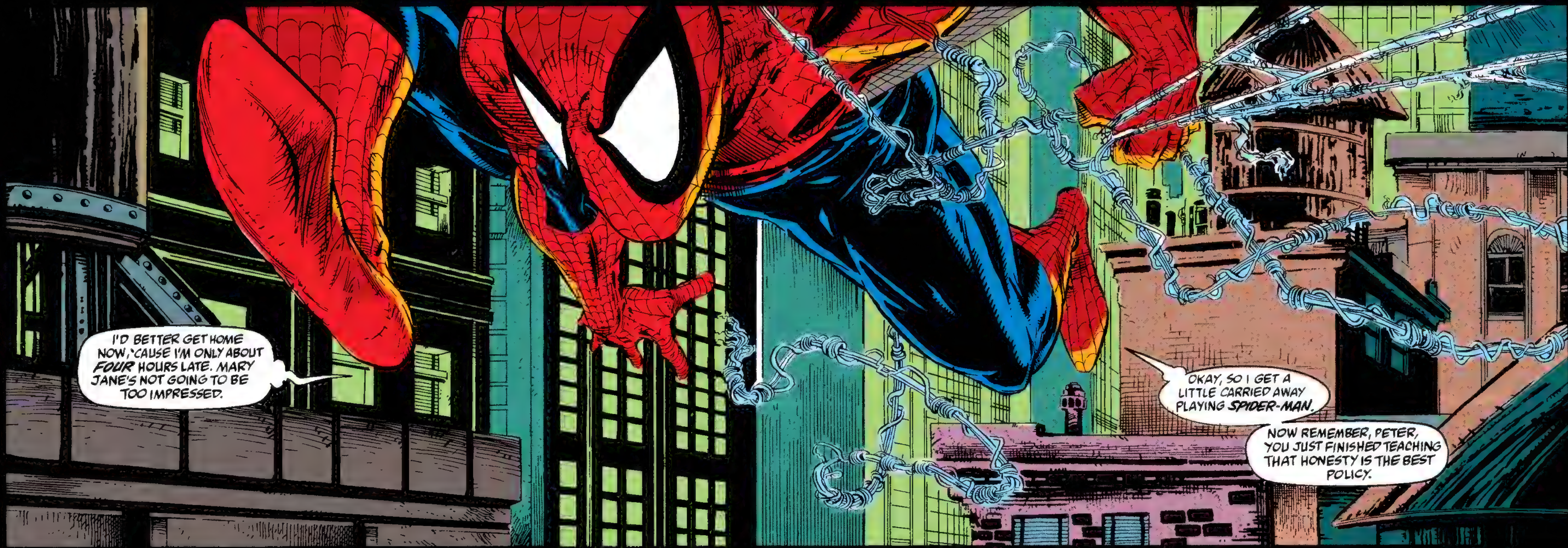
JUST WHEN I THINK
I'VE BEEN IN THIS BUSINESS
TOO LONG, I'M REJUVENATED
BY A NEW BURST OF
CREATIVITY.



MY NEW MOTTO IS
"IF YOU CAN'T SCARE 'EM
INTO HONEST LIFE, THEN
ANTAGONIZE 'EM WHILE
THEY'RE DOWN."



I LIKE
IT.



I'D BETTER GET HOME NOW, 'CAUSE I'M ONLY ABOUT **FOUR HOURS LATE**. MARY JANE'S NOT GOING TO BE TOO IMPRESSED.

OKAY, SO I GET A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY PLAYING **SPIDER-MAN**.

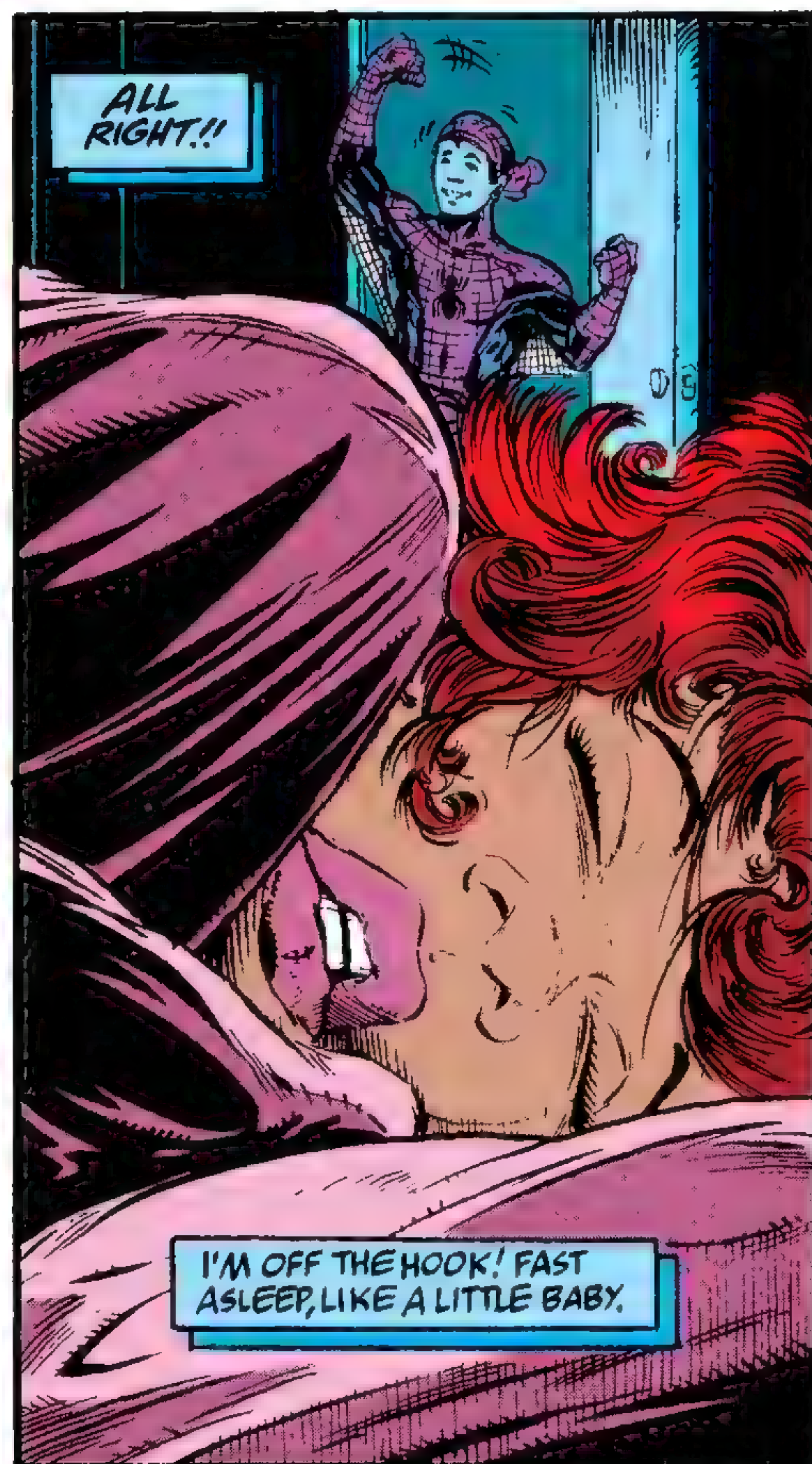
NOW REMEMBER, PETER, YOU JUST FINISHED TEACHING THAT HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY.



HOME, THINK QUICK.



HI, M.J.? YOU SEE, I MET THIS KNIFE SALESMAN AND--



ALL RIGHT!!

I'M OFF THE HOOK! FAST ASLEEP, LIKE A LITTLE BABY.



I'LL GET IT, M.J.

PETER! WHEN DID YOU GET HOME?

OH, JUST A MINUTE OR TWO AFTER YOU WENT TO BED.



HELLO?

PARKER, YOU'VE GOT EXACTLY TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES TO PACK, GRAB YOUR EQUIPMENT, AND GET TO THE BUGLE. I'M SENDING YOU ON THIS 'BIGFOOT' STORY.

WELL, SINCE YOU'VE ASKED SO NICELY, I'LL BE THERE IN TWENTY-FOUR MINUTES.

PARKER, I'M IN NO MOOD FOR YOUR--

CLICK

WHY ME?

BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE WAS BUSY!

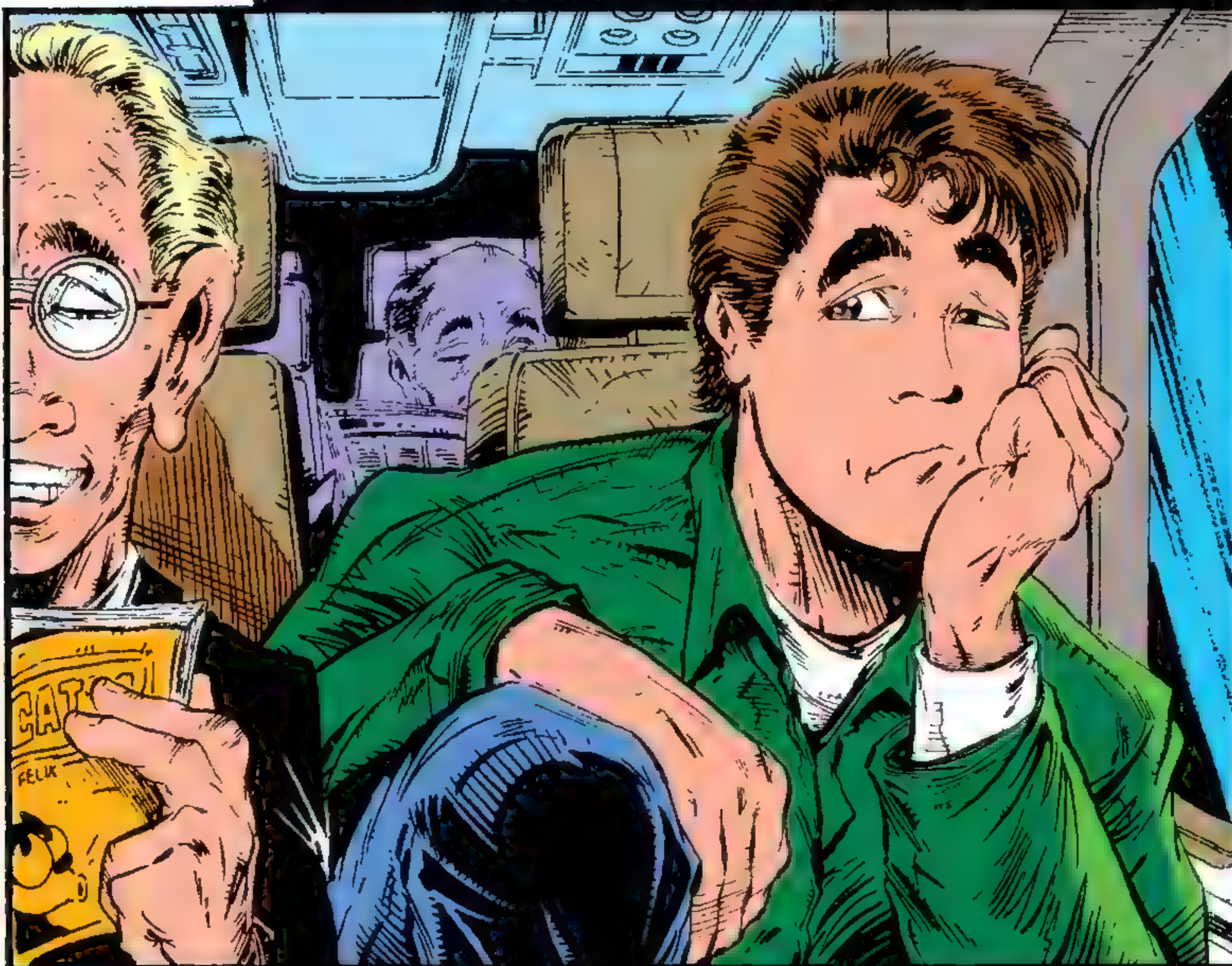
HATE HAVING TO LEAVE MY SWEETIE AGAIN. I'LL MAKE IT UP TO HER WHEN I GET BACK.

DAILY BUG

BUT BEING THE MATURE SUPER HERO WIFE, SHE UNDERSTANDS. AND ON TOP OF ALL THAT, SHE'S GONNA TAPE THE SIMPSONS AND TWIN PEAKS WHILE I'M GONE.

ONE HURRIED EXPLANATION AND TAXI DRIVE LATER,

SO JONAH DOESN'T WANT HIS PAPER TO BE LEFT IN THE DUST WITH THIS SASQUATCH STORY. FINE, I CAN UNDERSTAND.



THAT HE CHOSE ME TO TAKE THE PICTURES, THAT'S A GIVEN.

BUT-- TO HOOK ME UP WITH MELVIN GOONER AS THE REPORTER, THIS TRIP COULD BE LONGER THAN I THOUGHT. MAYBE JONAH'S TRYING TO TORTURE ME.

HOPE BRITISH COLUMBIA'S A NICE PLACE.

Miami Chronicle

Town Gripped with Fear



Hope, B.C., Canada

It is now the seventh day of this 'EVENT.' My reports will continue to come in on a daily basis until everything is settled. The idea of writing it from my perspective has been suggested by my editor.

Since I broke the story, it seems only natural to tap my own emotions. I am tied to this in some involuntary way. More than that, I actually created this hysteria.

I created it.

But my duty is to report the facts to the people of this province and help guide my paper's journalistic duties.

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The Vancouver Sun

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-2344 (Off.)
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Hunter Killed as Search Continues

Through all of this
I keep asking myself
the same question.

WHY?

What possible meaning
can this have, On a
human level or on
a divine level?

One boy is already
dead. His body so
viciously abused that
forensics still can't
determine the actual
cause of death.

Another boy, **BILL RICE**,
is still missing. Who
knows what horrors he
has been through.



We can only hope the boy
will return home soon--

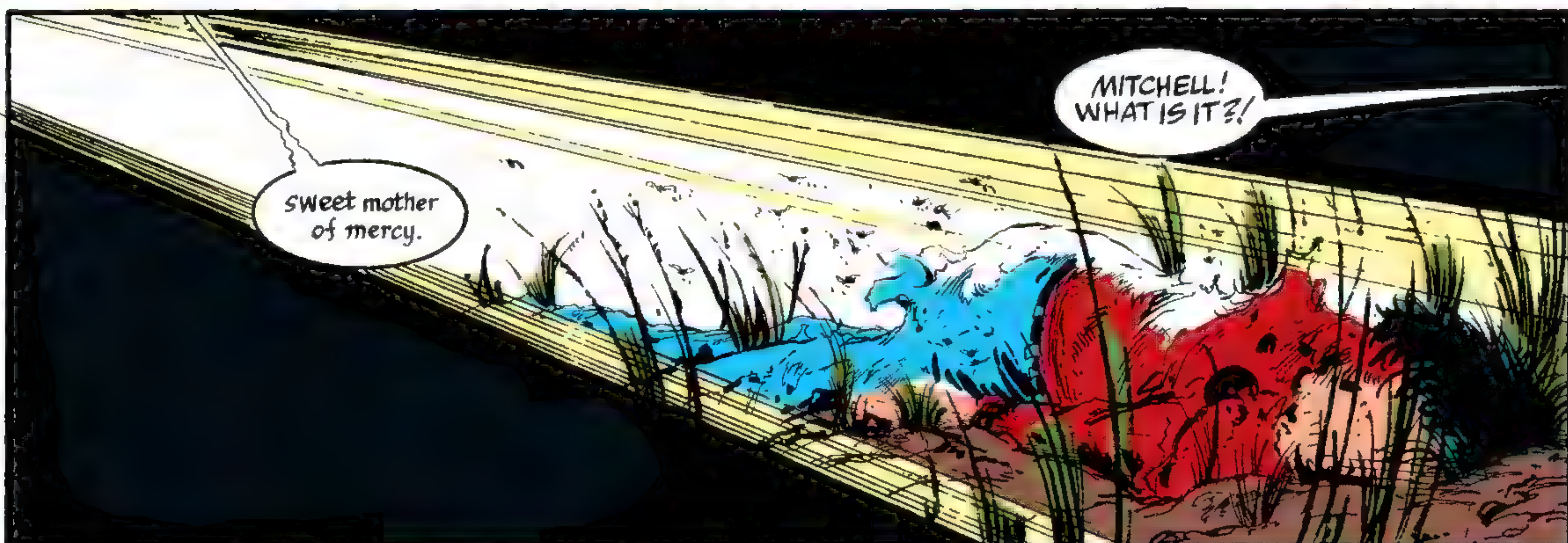


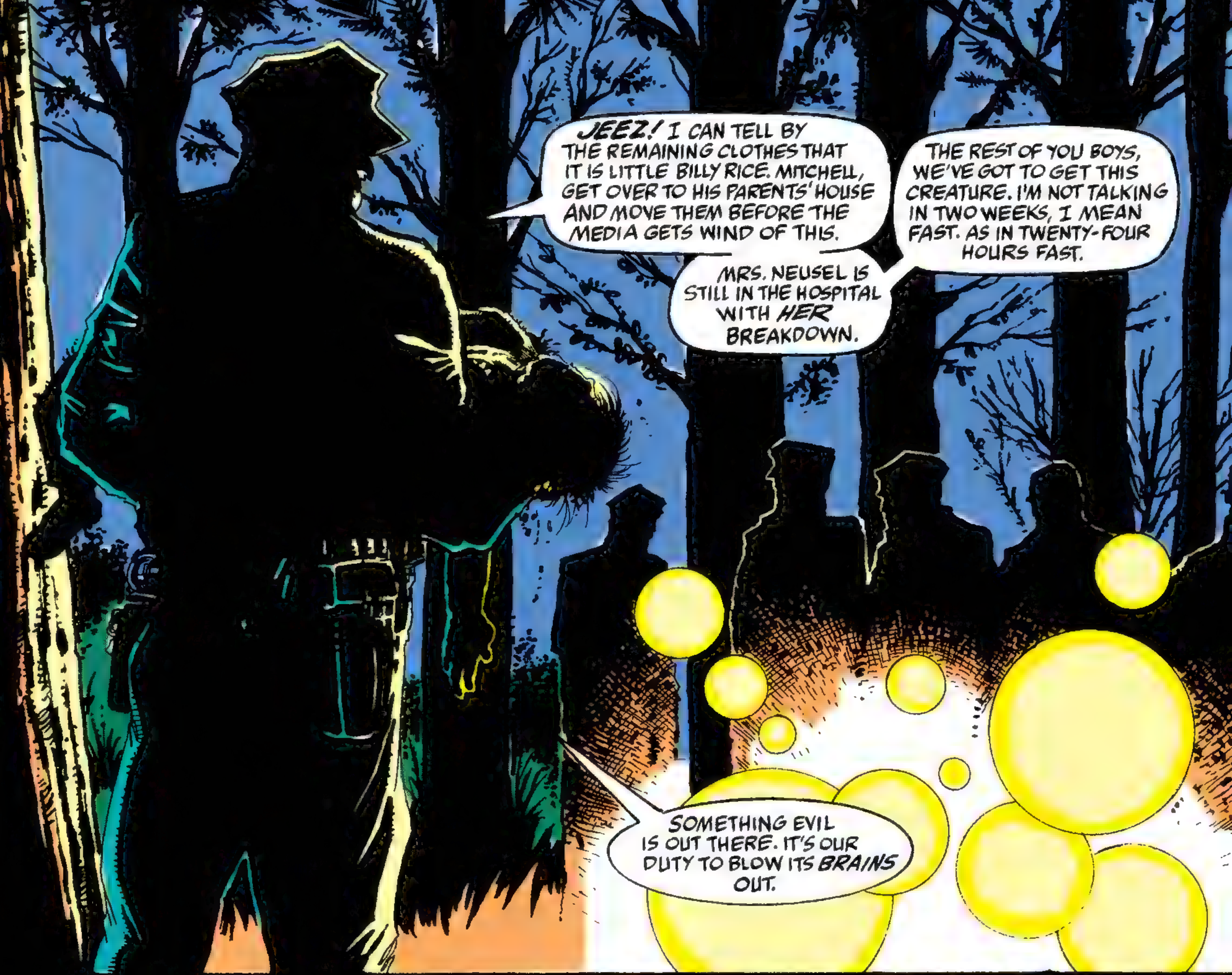
-- having
lost his way
in the forest,
and that it is
just a matter of
time--

-- before someone
finds him.



Safe.





JEEZ! I CAN TELL BY THE REMAINING CLOTHES THAT IT IS LITTLE BILLY RICE. MITCHELL, GET OVER TO HIS PARENTS' HOUSE AND MOVE THEM BEFORE THE MEDIA GETS WIND OF THIS.

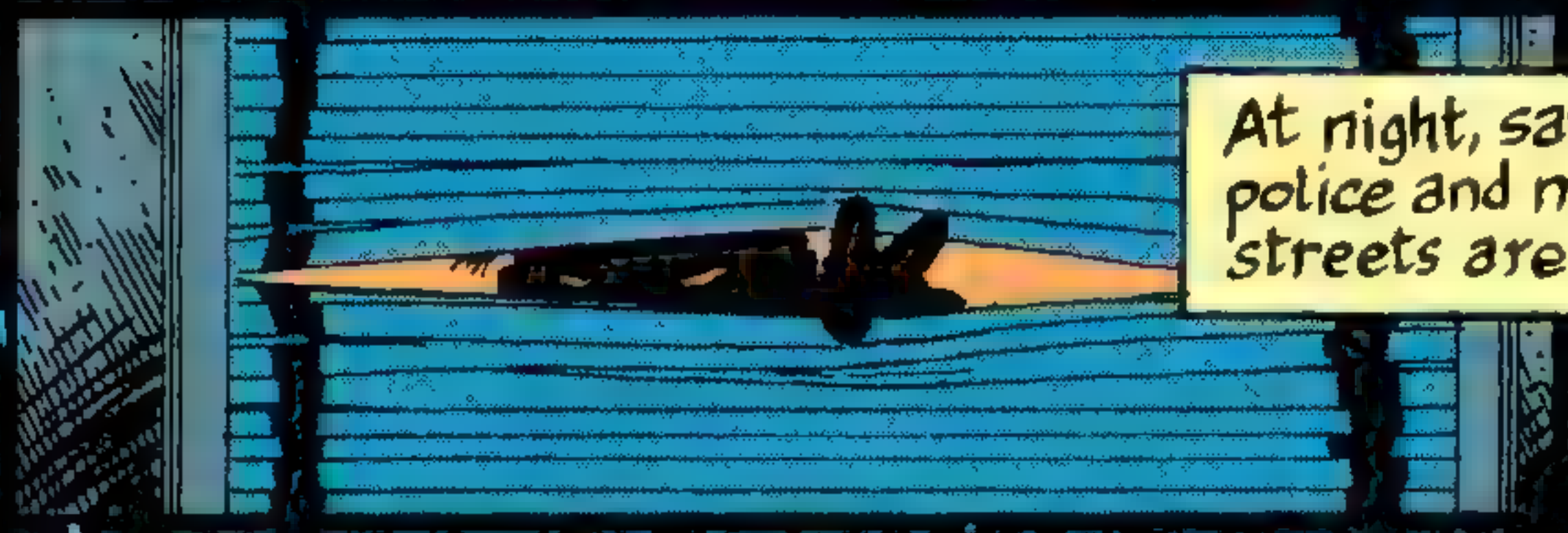
THE REST OF YOU BOYS, WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS CREATURE. I'M NOT TALKING IN TWO WEEKS, I MEAN FAST. AS IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS FAST.

MRS. NEUSEL IS STILL IN THE HOSPITAL WITH HER BREAKDOWN.

SOMETHING EVIL IS OUT THERE. IT'S OUR DUTY TO BLOW ITS BRAINS OUT.

Two dead.

Anyone who was a skeptic until now has been instantly converted. People have waited long enough. They want results. Most of the citizens have pulled their kids from school.



At night, save for the police and media, the streets are silent.

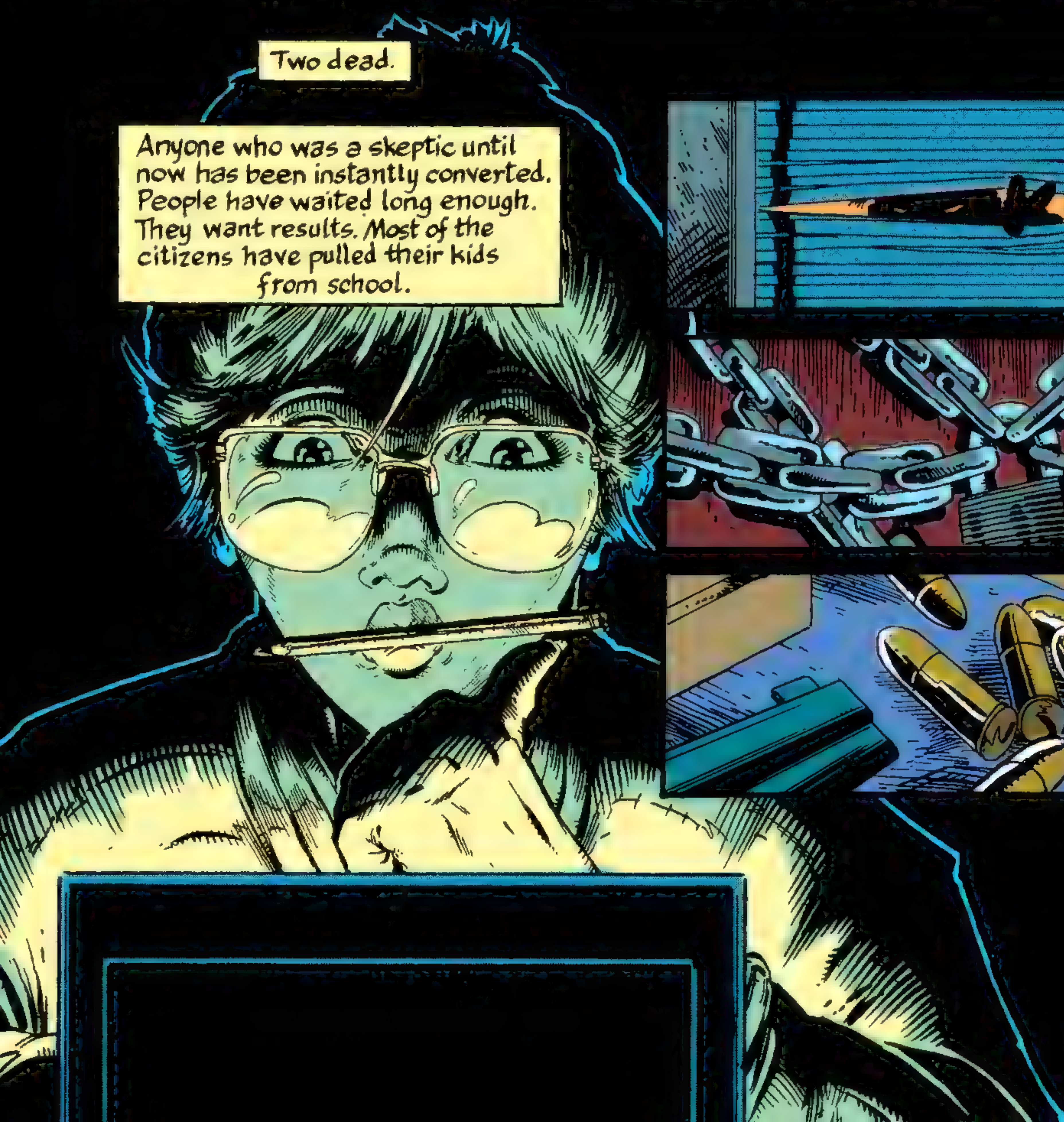


People hiding their emotions behind steel.



Others arm themselves for war.

The situation has gotten completely out of control. The media are not helping matters in the least.



Quite the opposite.

Calgary Herald

MUTILATED BOY FOUND

Part of the boy's limbs were missing. That seems to be the only worthy fact to us, the media.

DAILY NEWS

35¢

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER®

KILLING CONTINUES



★★★★
FINAL

DAILY BUGLE

30¢

THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER®

Partly cloudy, chance of snow High 25-30 Details p. 2

BIGFOOT EATS CHILD

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Year, No. 43,995 ©1990

Victim Consumed

Dallas Observer

FLESH-EATER STILL FREE



HELLO, SWEETHEART, HOW'S EVERYTHING?

PETER, I WAS WONDERING WHEN YOU'D CALL. I'M DOING FINE. THE QUESTION IS HOW ARE YOU? ARE THINGS AS BAD AS THE PAPERS SAY?

UNFORTUNATELY, THEY'RE NOT GOOD, M. J.

MELVIN AND I ARE STAYING IN CHILLIWACK. EVERYTHING WAS BOOKED UP IN HOPE. BUT YEAH, THINGS ARE PRETTY HAIRY RIGHT NOW. I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I'LL HAVE TO STAY.

I KNOW. I SAW A FEW MEDICAL PHOTOS OF BILLY RICE--IT JUST-- I COULDN'T TAKE IT. I LEFT THE ROOM AND CRIED. BIG TOUGH GUY, SPIDER-MAN.

YOU'D THINK I'D SEEN EVERYTHING. BUT ALL I COULD DO WAS CRY.

IT'S OKAY, PETER. WE SHOULDN'T EVER GET SO USED TO THE HORRORS IN THIS WORLD.

I KNOW, DARLING. DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO. I JUST CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT THOSE POOR BOYS' PARENTS. LIFE ISN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN LIKE THIS.

YOU GOING TO BE OKAY?

SURE, I THINK I'M GOING TO STEP OUT FOR SOME FRESH AIR.

I LOVE YOU, SWEETIE.

I LOVE YOU, TOO. 'BYE.

NO PARENTS SHOULD HAVE TO SEE THEIR CHILD DIE BEFORE THEM.

CANADA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Thursday, December 6, 1990

Year, No. 43,995 ©1990

Berserk Sasquatch: No End in Sight

Day nine. It seems like the creature is everywhere again. The town's imagination has torn apart any sense of logic. The beast can't possibly be in eight spots at once.

Rumors begin to fly. Maybe there is a whole race of them. Maybe they are biding time. Waiting to wipe out the entire town. A sadistic smorgasbord. Beast devouring man.

These thoughts people are whispering. It is no longer a circus. Biblical prophecy has taken its place.

My mind is becoming numb. My energy just isn't there. And, more importantly, neither is my heart.



THIS MADNESS
MUST STOP.

Things that
act irrationally.

★★★★
FINAL

DAILY BUGLE

THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER®

30¢

30¢ Thursday, January 30

Partly cloudy, chance of snow. High 25-30. Details p. 2

BIGFOOT ATTACK— Hunters Left Alive

What was that? ... when we ...
... the ...

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE

CAB
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AUTHORITY

"PERCEPTIONS" PART 2 OF 5

SPIDER-MAN

GUEST-STARRING
WOLVERINE



50
YEARS



OF
CAPTAIN AMERICA

1941 - 1991

DEEP IN THE WOODS LURKS...

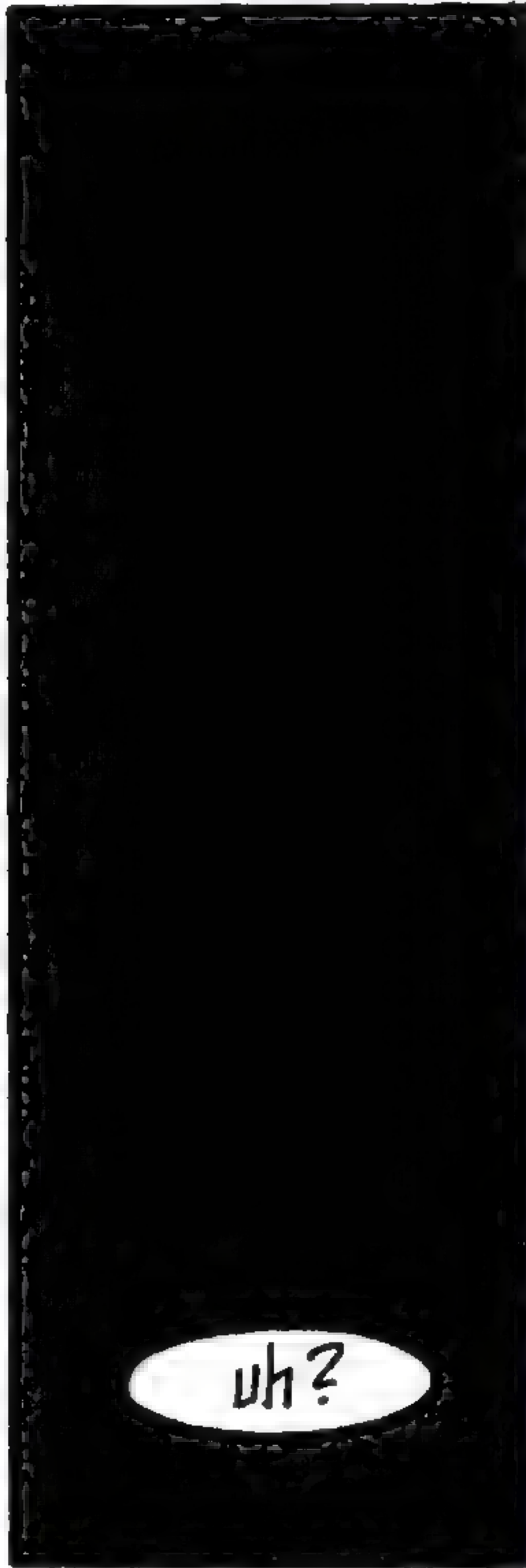
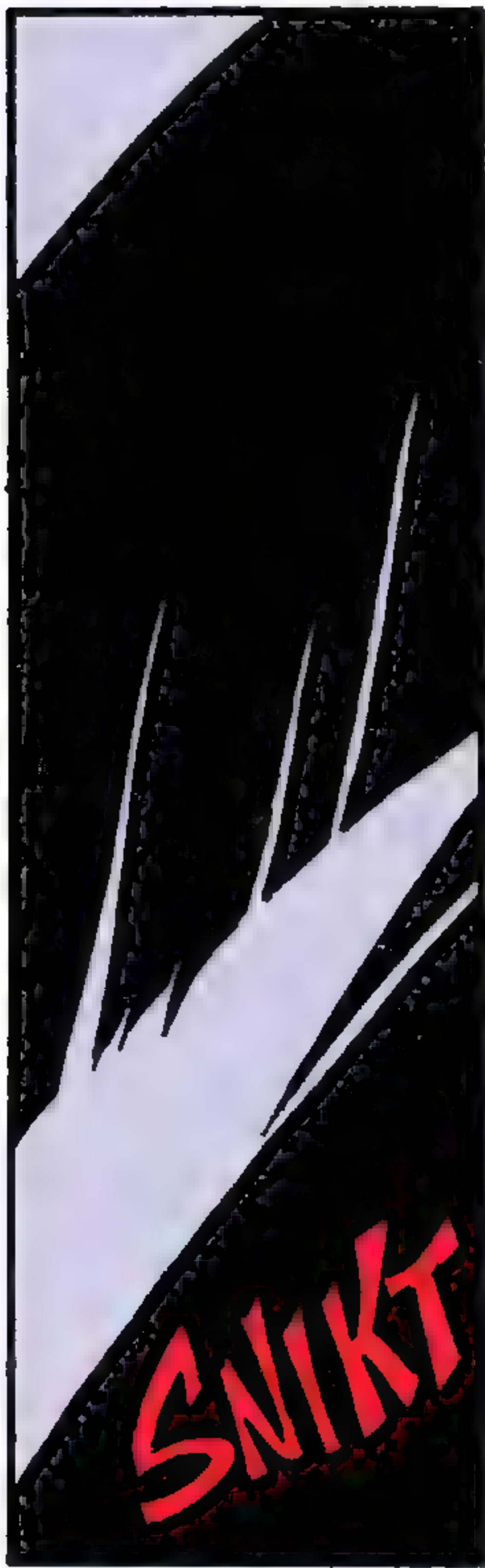
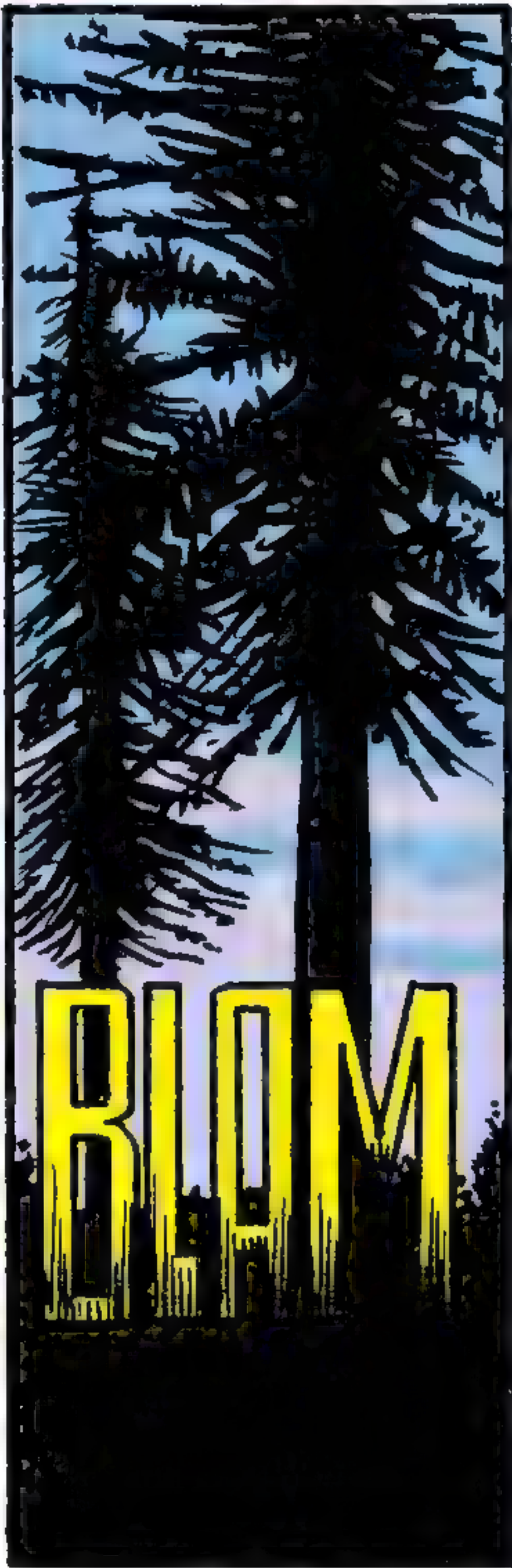
WENDIGO!

TODD McFARLANE PENCILS
GREGORY WRIGHT COLORS

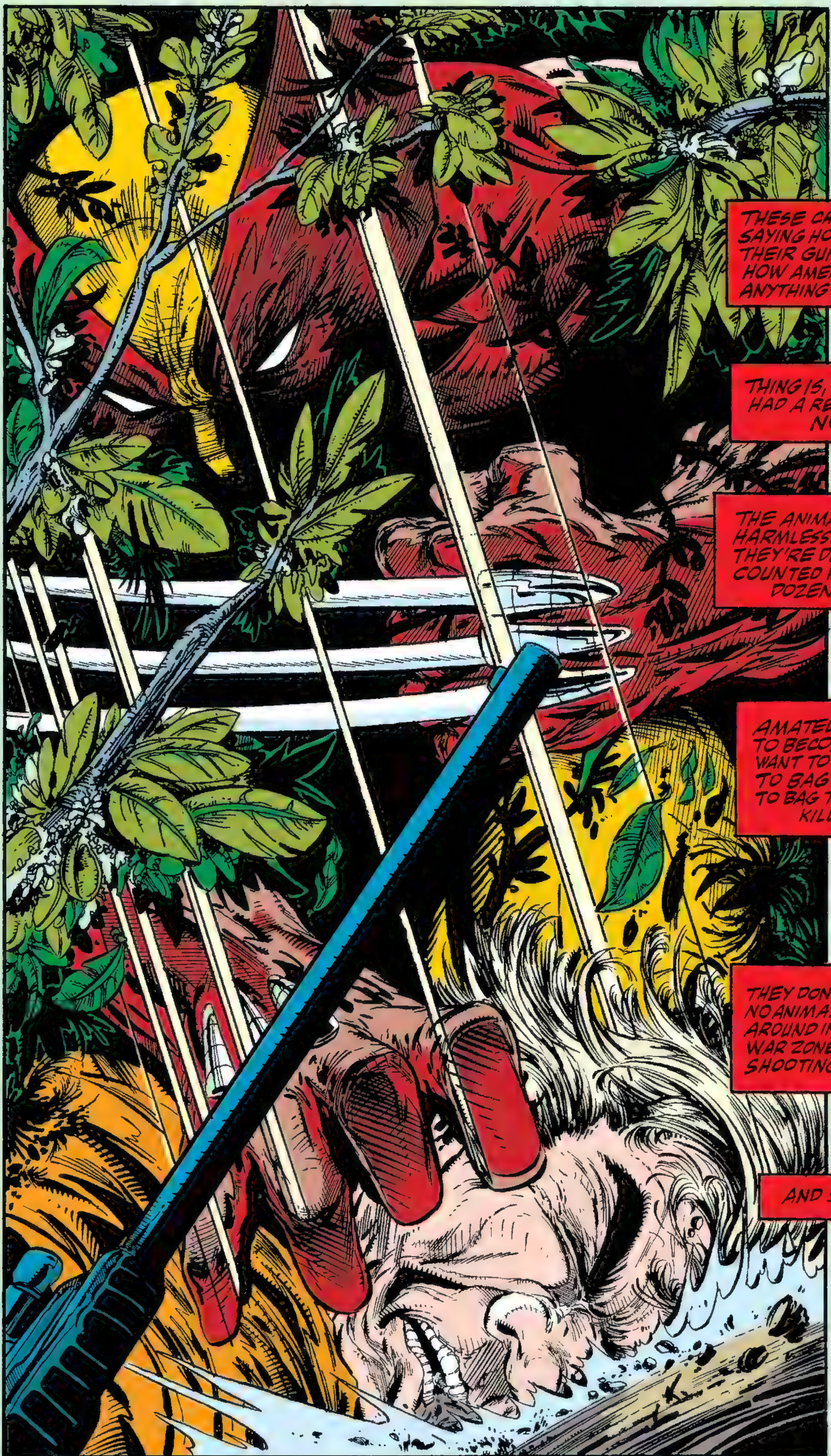
INKS STORY
JIM SALICRU EDITOR

RICK PARKER LETTERS
TOM DETALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:



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S



THESE CANADIANS KEEP SAYING HOW CIVILIZED THEIR GUN LAWS ARE. HOW AMERICANS SHOOT ANYTHING THAT MOVES.

THING IS, THEY HAVEN'T HAD A REASON-- TILL NOW.

THE ANIMALS WERE HARMLESS. NOW THEY'RE DEAD. I'VE COUNTED FIVE DOZEN.

AMATEURS--LOOKING TO BECOME HEROES. WANT TO BE THE ONE TO BAG "BIGFOOT." TO BAG THE BABY-KILLER.

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND, NO ANIMAL WOULD STICK AROUND IN THIS KIND OF WAR ZONE. IDIOTS ARE SHOOTING AT GHOSTS.

AND SHADOWS.

AND
ANIMALS.

SAY YOUR PRAYERS, BUB.
IT'S TIME YOU MET YOUR
MAKER.

IF HE'LL
TAKE
YOU.

please-- no--
I beg you
don't---

YOU
WHAT?


I BEG
YOU--

THAT'S IT? YOU
BEG ME AND NOW
I'M SUPPOSED TO
CHANGE MY MIND
AND FEEL
REMORSE.

WHY?
BECAUSE I
CAN UNDER-
STAND YOUR
PLEAS. SEE IN
YOUR EYES
THAT YOU
DON'T WANT
TO DIE.

IT'S UNFAIR THAT YOU'RE
DEFENSELESS AND MEAN ME
NO HARM, YET I HAVE THE
POWER TO **BLOW** YOUR
HEAD OFF.


NOW YOU
KNOW HOW
THEY FEEL.



THOSE ANIMALS THAT
YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS
ARE SLAUGHTERING WANT
TO LIVE JUST AS MUCH AS
YOU.

DIFFERENCE
IS, THEY CAN'T
BEG!

NATURE'S BEEN TAKING
CARE OF THEM FOR THOUSANDS
OF YEARS. SURVIVAL IS THEIR
GOAL. THAT AND KEEPIN' THE
SPECIES ALIVE.




A SIMPLE
FORMULA UNTIL
MAN BECOMES
A FACTOR.

YOU KNOW,
IF THEY COULD
SPEAK AND SAY
"PLEASE DON'T
SHOOT, I *BEG*
YOU," I DON'T
THINK WE
WOULD.



OUR CONSCIENCES
WOULDN'T LET US.



BUT THEY DON'T
AND NATURE WASN'T
KIND ENOUGH TO
GIVE 'EM A TRIGGER
FINGER.

SO THE
KILLING
CONTINUES.



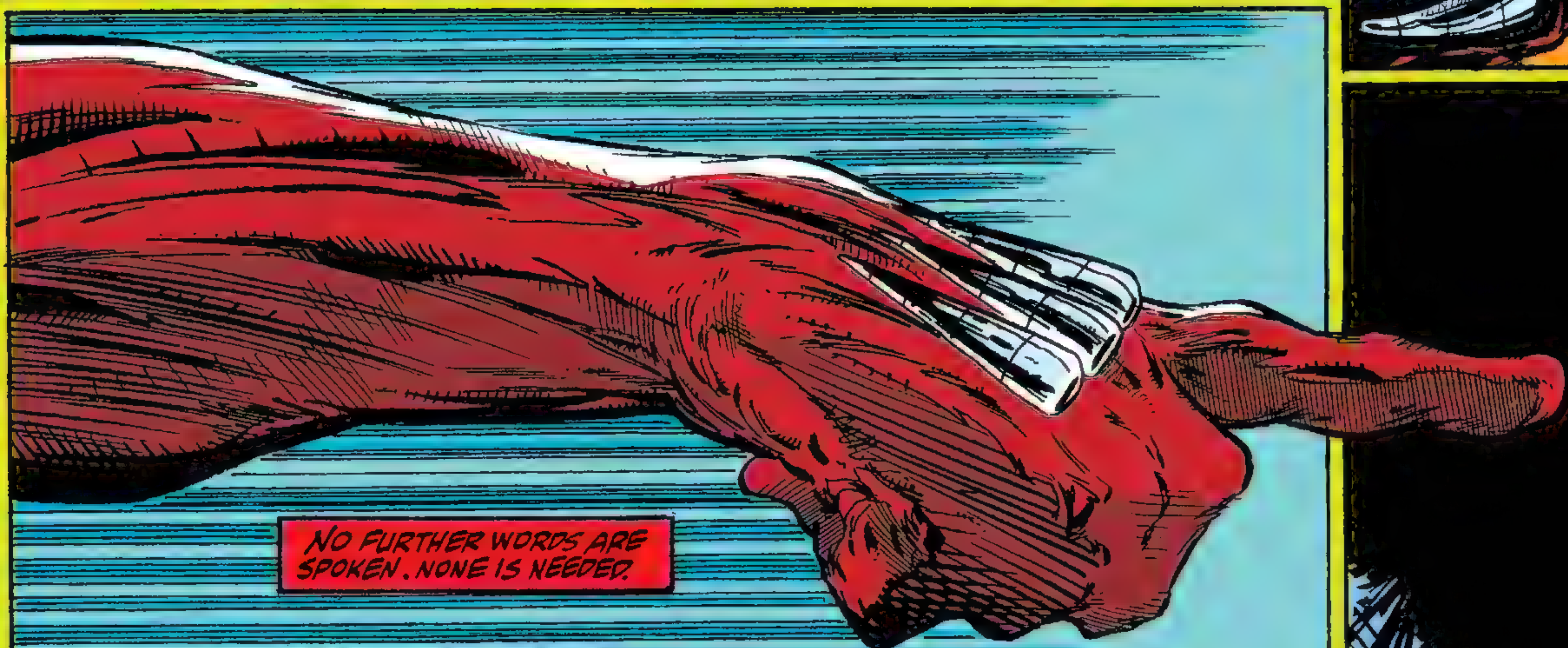
FORTUNATELY
FOR YOU, I'M IN
A GENEROUS
MOOD TONIGHT.

YOU SPREAD
THE WORD TO YOUR
FRIENDS THAT KILLING
IS WRONG. MAKE
SURE THEY GET
YOUR POINT.

OH, ONE MORE THING. YOU
BREATHE A WORD OF OUR
MEETING TO ANYONE--YOU
WON'T BE GIVEN A CHANCE
TO *BEG*.



sure-- sure,
okay, I--
I promise.

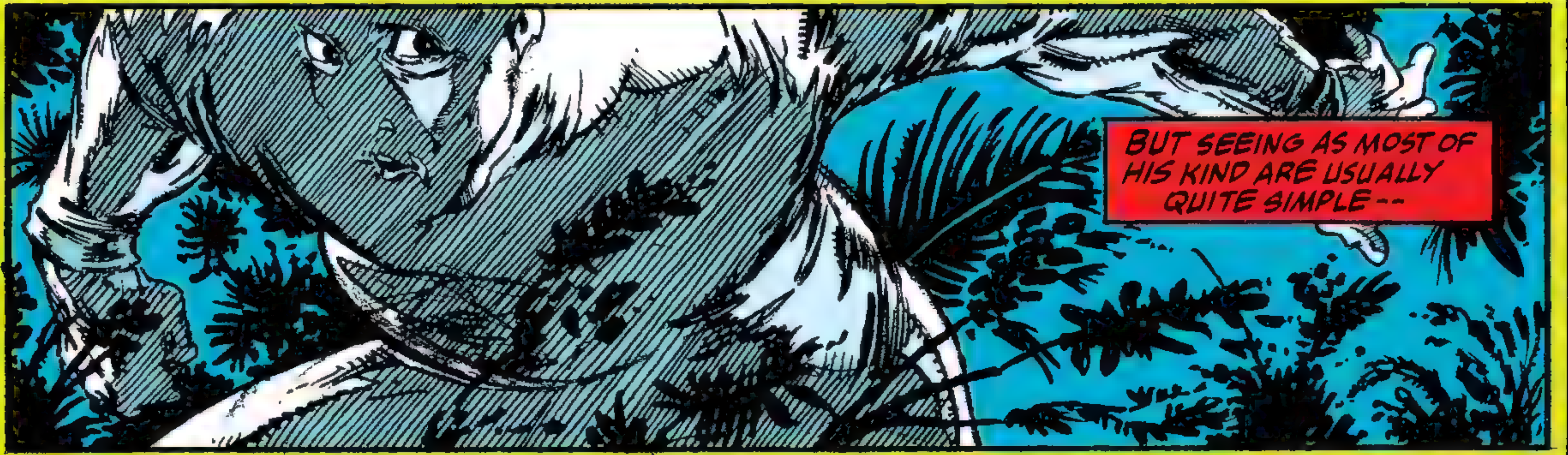


NO FURTHER WORDS ARE
SPOKEN. NONE IS NEEDED.

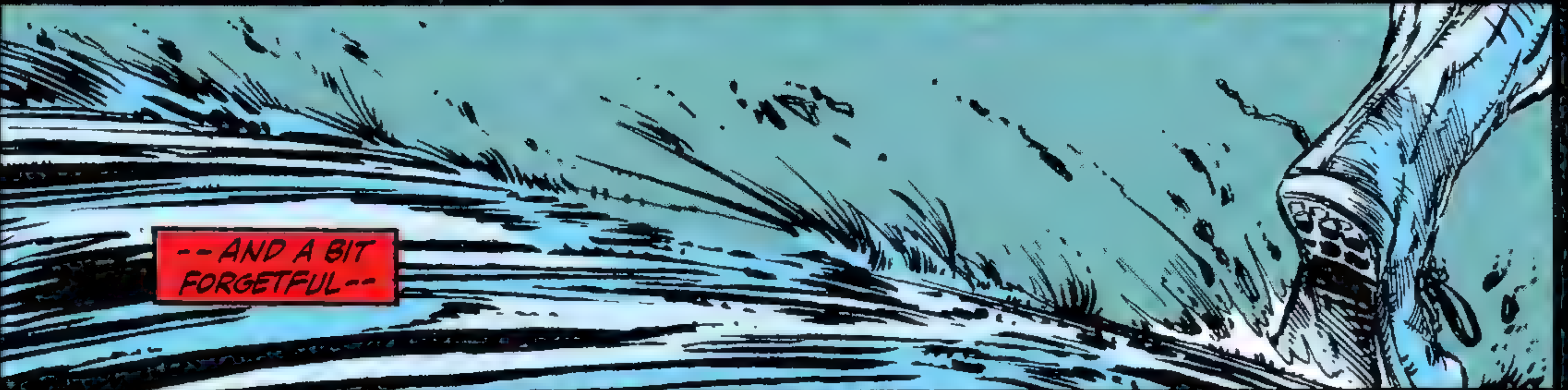
KINDA FUNNY THOUGH,
DON'T THINK I'VE EVER
SEEN A FAT MAN MOVE
SO QUICKLY.

HOPE HIS FRIENDS
DON'T SHOOT HIM.





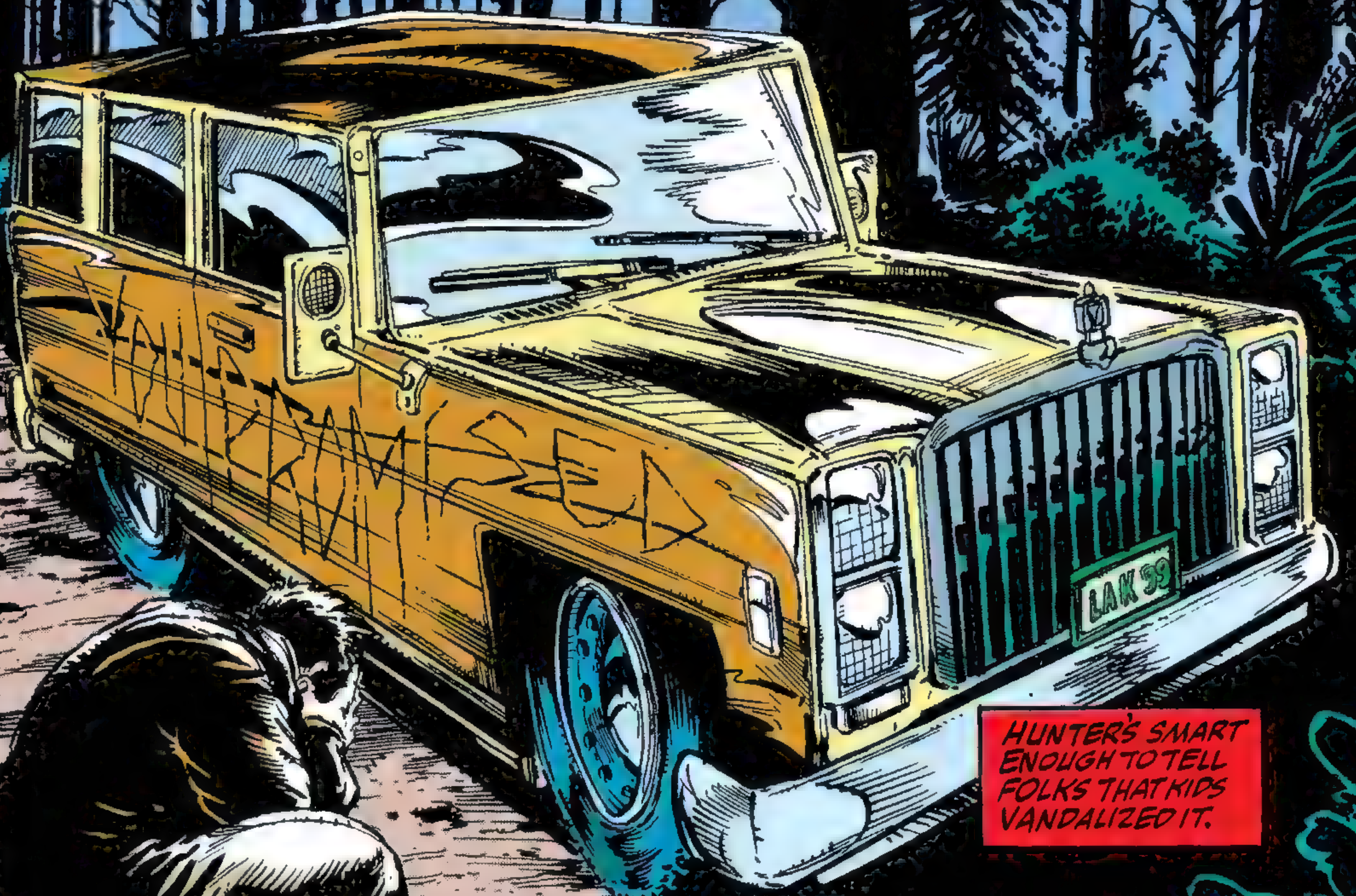
BUT SEEING AS MOST OF
HIS KIND ARE USUALLY
QUITE SIMPLE --



-- AND A BIT
FORGETFUL --



-- HE MIGHT JUST
NEED A LITTLE
REMINDER.



HUNTER'S SMART
ENOUGH TO TELL
FOLKS THAT KIDS
VANDALIZED IT.



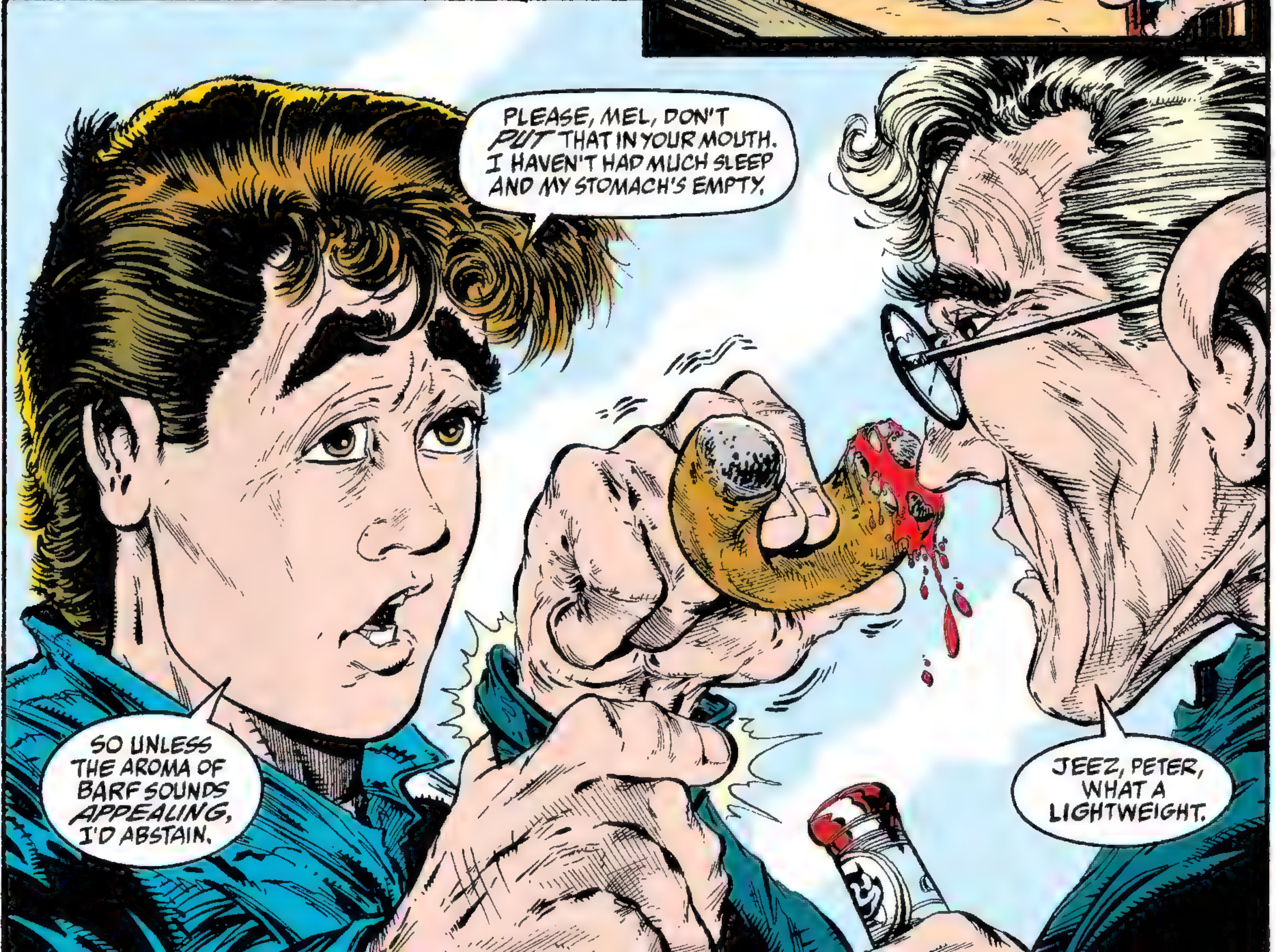
I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN, PETER, ALL THIS KILLING AND HYSTERIA. MAKES YOU SICK, DOESN'T IT?



UH--YEAH.

UM, EXCUSE ME A MINUTE, MELVIN, BUT YOU AREN'T ACTUALLY GOING TO EAT THAT MESS ARE YOU?

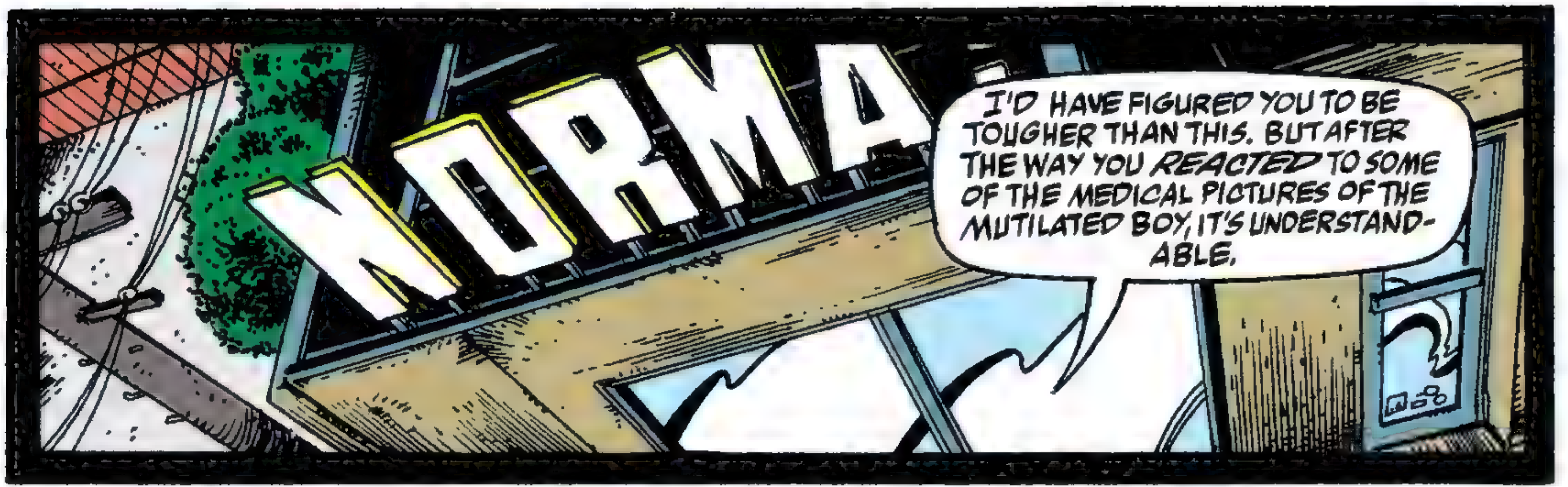
KETCHUP AND DONUTS, SURE-- LOVE 'EM!



PLEASE, MEL, DON'T PUT THAT IN YOUR MOUTH. I HAVEN'T HAD MUCH SLEEP AND MY STOMACH'S EMPTY.

JEEZ, PETER, WHAT A LIGHTWEIGHT.

SO UNLESS THE AROMA OF BARF SOUNDS APPEALING, I'D ABSTAIN.



I'D HAVE FIGURED YOU TO BE TOUGHER THAN THIS. BUT AFTER THE WAY YOU *REACTED* TO SOME OF THE MEDICAL PICTURES OF THE MUTILATED BOY, IT'S UNDERSTAND-ABLE.

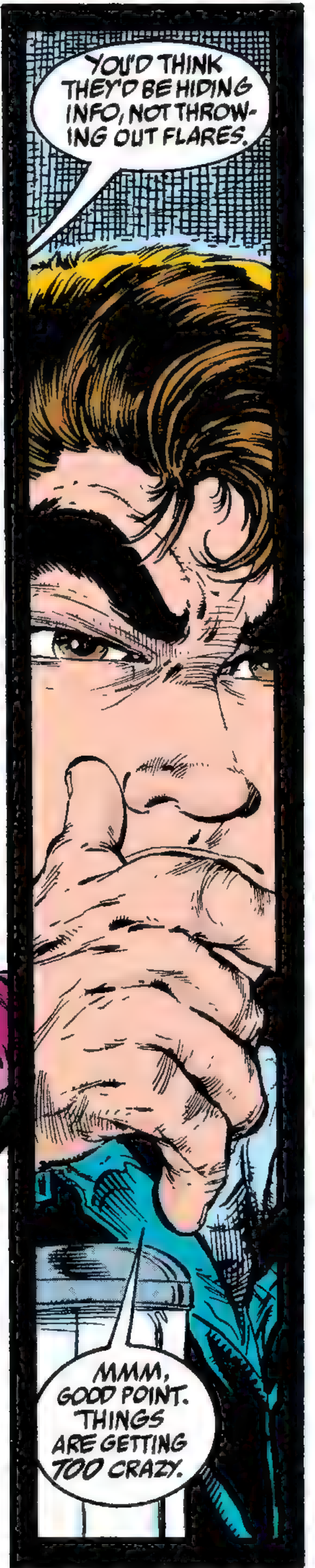


ON THE OTHER HAND, I DON'T QUITE KNOW WHY THEY'D *RELEASE* THOSE PHOTOS BUT SAY THE TESTS WERE INCOMPLETE.

USUALLY THEY WOULD DO THINGS QUITE THE *OPPOSITE*. PICTURES AREN'T THE NORM. MAYBE THERE'RE JUST DIFFERENT RULES HERE IN CANADA.

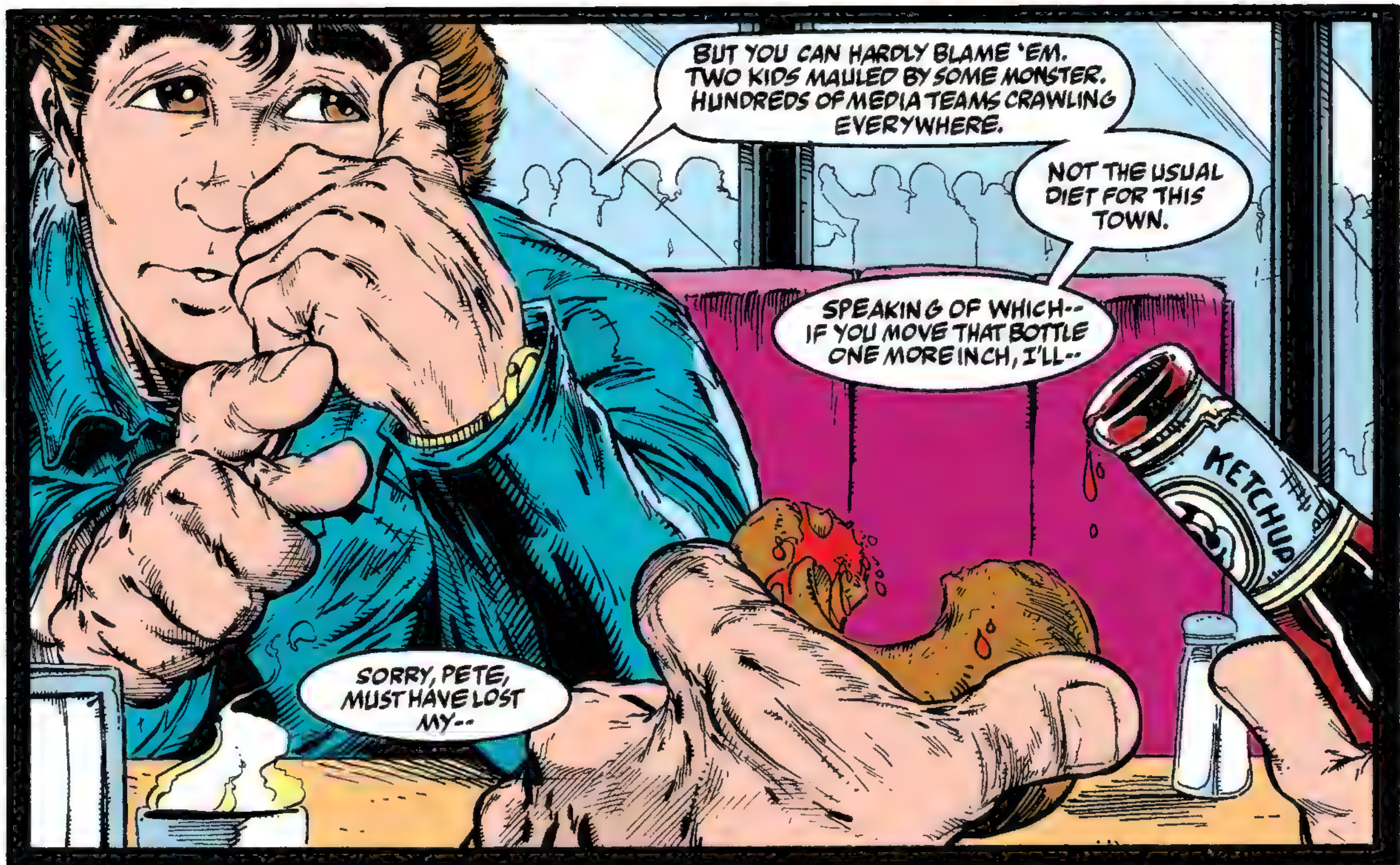
THE INSPECTOR AND HIS CREW SEEM TO BE AGGRAVATING THE REPOR-TERS MORE THAN ANYTHING.

WHY WOULD THEY WANT TO ADD MORE HASSLES TO THIS CASE. GUESS THEY LIKE ALL OF THE ATTENTION. BUT THE WAY INFORMATION'S GETTING OUT IS ONLY MAKING THIS TOWN *MORE PARANOID*.



YOU'D THINK THEY'D BE HIDING INFO, NOT THROW-ING OUT FLARES.

MMM, GOOD POINT. THINGS ARE GETTING *TOO CRAZY*.



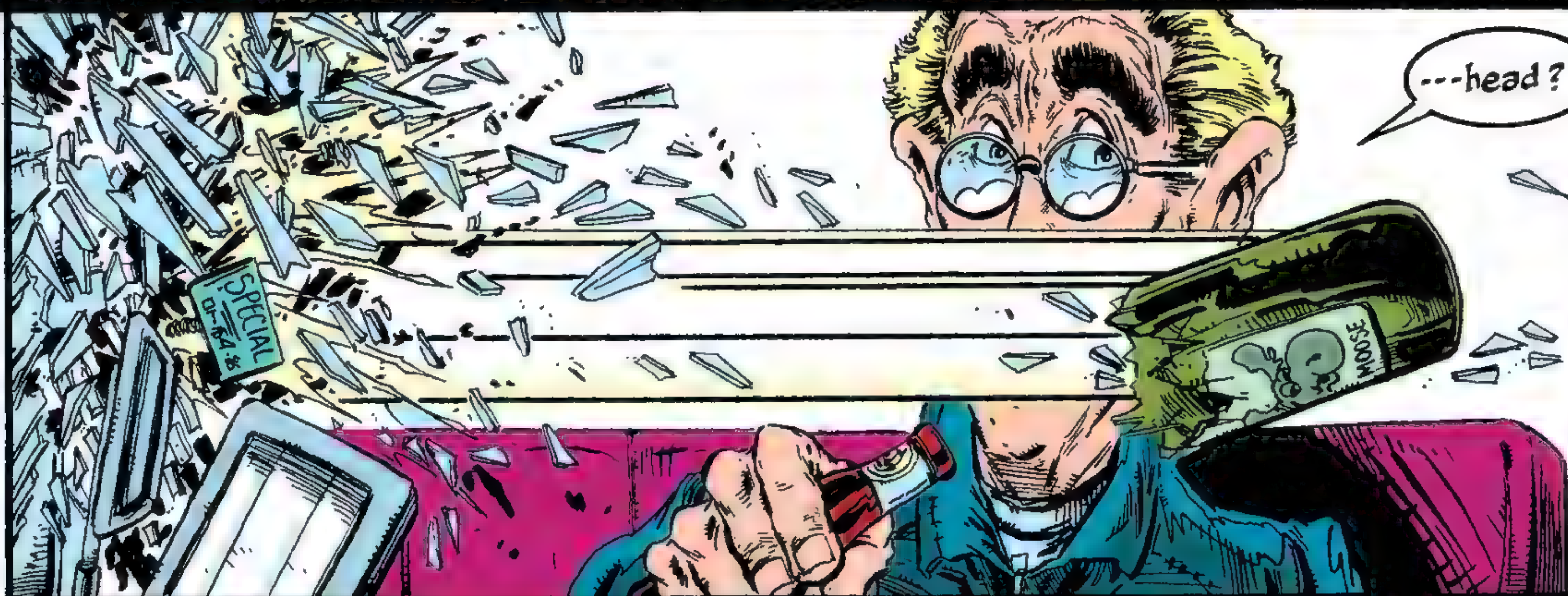
BUT YOU CAN HARDLY BLAME 'EM.
TWO KIDS MAULED BY SOME MONSTER.
HUNDREDS OF MEDIA TEAMS CRAWLING
EVERYWHERE.

NOT THE USUAL
DIET FOR THIS
TOWN.

SPEAKING OF WHICH--
IF YOU MOVE THAT BOTTLE
ONE MORE INCH, I'LL--

SORRY, PETE,
MUST HAVE LOST
MY--

---head?



JEEZ! LOOKS
LIKE A RIOT OUT
THERE.

YEAH, I'M
GONNA CHECK
IT OUT. GIVE YOU
TIME TO FINISH
YOUR DONUTS
IN PEACE.

WHAT
GIVES YOU
THE RIGHT?

PSYCHO.

BUTCHER.

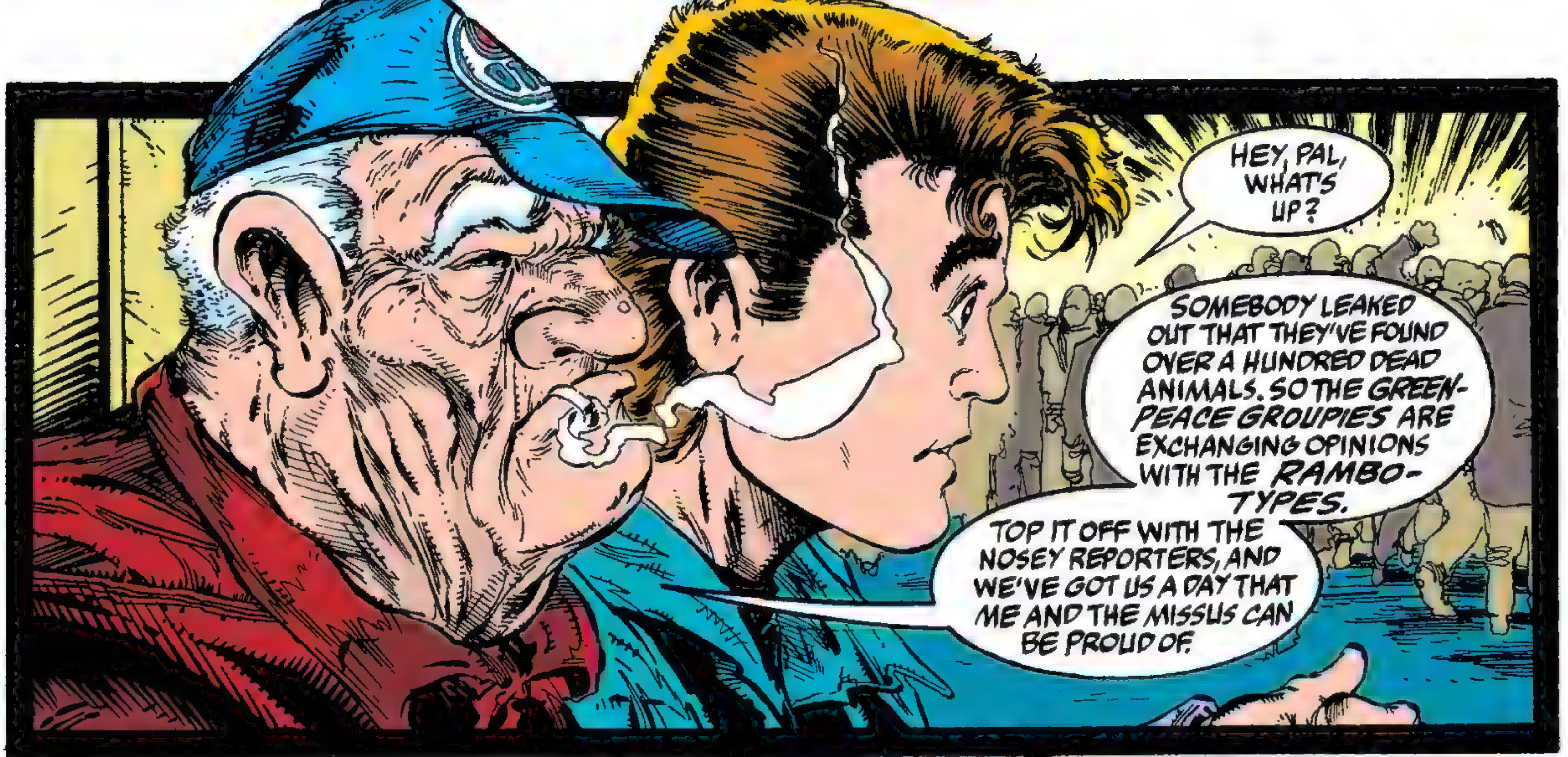
LISTEN, I'LL
CRACK
YOUR SKULL--

YOU
CAN'T
SHOOT
EVERY-
THING.

FANATIC!

LIVES ARE
AT STAKE.





HEY, PAL,
WHAT'S
UP?

SOMEBODY LEAKED
OUT THAT THEY'VE FOUND
OVER A HUNDRED DEAD
ANIMALS. SO THE GREEN-
PEACE GROUPIES ARE
EXCHANGING OPINIONS
WITH THE RAMBO-
TYPES.

TOP IT OFF WITH THE
NOSEY REPORTERS, AND
WE'VE GOT US A DAY THAT
ME AND THE MISSUS CAN
BE PROUD OF.

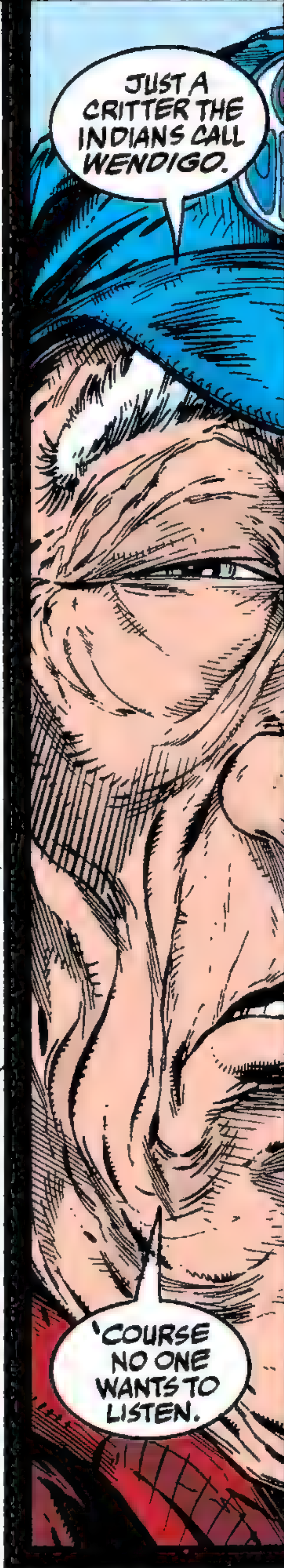


SAY, YOU AIN'T
ONE OF THEM,
ARE YOU?

I CAN SEE YOU'RE
IMPRESSED WITH
THIS, TOO.

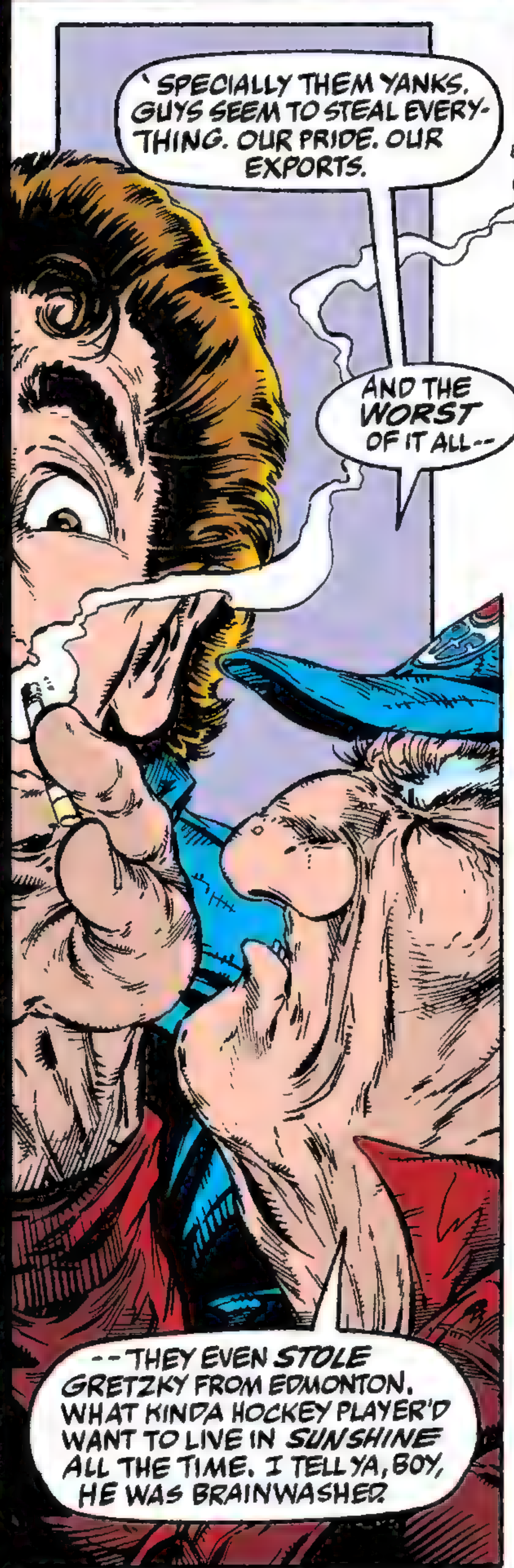
NO! NO!
I'M FROM--
CHILLIWACK.

BIG CITY
SLICKERS-- DON'T
NEED 'EM. 'SPECIALLY
THEM TROUBLEMAKING
YANKES. THEY DON'T
UNDERSTAND NOTHING.
AIN'T NO "BIGFOOT"
OUT THERE.



JUST A
CRITTER THE
INDIANS CALL
WENDIGO.

'COURSE
NO ONE
WANTS TO
LISTEN.



'SPECIALLY THEM YANKS.
GUYS SEEM TO STEAL EVERY-
THING. OUR PRIDE. OUR
EXPORTS.

AND THE
WORST
OF IT ALL--

-- THEY EVEN **STOLE**
GRETZKY FROM EDMONTON.
WHAT KINDA HOCKEY PLAYER'D
WANT TO LIVE IN **SUNSHINE**
ALL THE TIME. I TELL YA, BOY,
HE WAS BRAINWASHED?

A full-page comic book illustration of Spider-Man. He is shown from the waist up, wearing his iconic red and blue suit with white web patterns. He is bound by thick, metallic chains that wrap around his arms, torso, and legs. He is positioned in a crouched, almost suspended state against a dark, shadowy background with some foliage visible. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of his suit and the metallic sheen of the chains. The overall tone is somber and determined.

NIGHTFALL.

DITCHED MELVIN. NOW I CAN
DO MY OWN INVESTIGATING.
ANYTHING TO SPEED UP THIS
MESS SO I CAN GET BACK TO
MARY JANE.

WOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN
THIS ASSIGNMENT IF I'D
KNOWN IT'D DRAG ON
THIS LONG.

UNFORTUNATELY, I'VE GOT TO STAY IN
THE SHADOWS WHILE I'M HERE. IT'D BE
TOO EASY TO FIGURE OUT THAT THE
PETER PARKER IN NEW YORK OF
"WEBS" FAME IS ALSO IN HOPE, B.C.
WITH SPIDEY.

I DON'T NEED
COMPLICATIONS.
I NEED
ANSWERS.



BIGGEST MISTAKE
I'VE MADE SO FAR IS
NOT BRINGING THE
THERMAL UNDERWEAR.

MELVIN THINKS THERE
MIGHT BE ANSWERS AT
THE TOP.



I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE
HE EATS DONUTS AND
KETCHUP. THE MAN'S
TOUCHED.

HOPE THE R.C.M.P.
BUILDING IS THIS WAY.



IT IS. BUT TWO HOURS GO BY
BEFORE THE PAYOFF.

FINALLY! I'M
JUST ABOUT FROZEN
TO DEATH.

YOU'D THINK THEY'D
HAVE THE COURTESY
TO SHOW UP WHEN
I DID.

THAT'S HOW IT WORKS
IN THE COMICS.

LISTEN HERE,
LADY, YOU GOT SOME-
THING TO SAY, THEN
SAY IT.

OTHERWISE, I'VE GOT PROBLEMS TO DEAL WITH. THERE'S 400 REPORTERS, ENVIRONMENTALISTS, AND ROOKIE HUNTERS I'M TRYING TO HANDLE, AS WELL AS KEEPING THIS TOWN IN *SOME* SORT OF ORDER WHILE THE MEDIA MAKES A CIRCUS OF IT.

IF I GIVE ANY INFORMATION, I'M CAUSING HYSTERIA. I GIVE NONE IT'S A COVER-UP. YOU GOT ANY SUGGESTIONS I'M ALL EARS.

YOUR JOB DOESN'T *INCLUDE* CAUSING A RIOT. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO STOP THEM.

POOR YOU.

PEOPLE TELL ME YOU LEAKED THE BODY COUNT OF THE ANIMALS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY.


YOU'RE CREATING YOUR OWN PROBLEMS.

IF NOT, THEN LET ME DO MY JOB.

JUST BECAUSE YOU BROKE THE STORY, MS. BROOKS, DOESN'T GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO SLANDER.

"SO WHY DON'T YOU GO WRITE YOUR NEXT STORY ABOUT FLESH-EATING MONSTERS AND SELL AN *EXTRA* TEN THOUSAND COPIES."

SPIDEY, MY BOY, THINGS ARE DEFINITELY STARTING TO HEAT UP.



SO THAT'S
THE
VANCOUVER
REPORTER
WHO RAN
INTO OUR
SO-CALLED
BIGFOOT.



TIME TO CATCH A
FLY, SPIDEY.

TOO BAD I
CAN'T SCARE
HER.

BUT THERE ARE OTHER WAYS
TO EXTRACT INFO. NAMELY, THE
FAMOUS, BUT OFTEN UNDER-USED
PARKER-PERSUASION.

IT'S NOT FOR NOTHING
THAT THE BABES SWOON
OVER ME.

OR, AS
THE OLD
MAN SAID,
WENDIGO.

BETTY. GWEN. FELICIA.
MARY JANE. AH, THE
LIST IS ENDLESS.

AH, WHO'RE YOU KIDDING, PETEY.
THE REAL REASON YOU WANT
ANSWERS IS TO GET HOME TO
YOUR WIFE SOONER.

AND IN THE MEANTIME
TRY TO RID THIS PLACE
OF SOME GOD-FORSAKEN
MONSTROSITY.

I HOPE THE BOYS,
AT LEAST, DIED
QUICKLY.

KEAHN HERE. SOMEONE
BRING LUKE THORPE,
I DON'T CARE WHAT IT
TAKES. IT'S TIME WE
TOOK THE OFFENSE.

IF ANYONE CAN
TRACK THIS CREATURE,
THORPE'S OUR MAN.

YEAH, YEAH,
I KNOW. THEN
SOBER HIM UP IF
YOU HAVE TO.

ALSO, HAVE TEN MEN
STANDING BY. WE'RE
GONNA HAVE THORPE
LEAD US TO IT--

-- AND WE'RE
GONNA GET RID
OF THIS HEADACHE
ONCE AND FOR
ALL.

WHAT? YOU
TELL THEM TO
SHOVE THEIR
POLICIES.

BETTER MAKE
THIS QUICK. DON'T
WANT TO LOSE
HER.

THERE SHE IS.
WELL, PETER, TIME
TO GO TO WORK.

EXCUSE ME,
MISS. THOUGHT
YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW
THAT THIS CREATURE
YOU'RE CHASING IS
CALLED WENDIGO.

FROM THE
INDIAN
MYTHS?

IT'S A
FLESH EATER
AND HAS WHITE
FUR. SOUND
FAMILIAR?

YOU WANT
TO GET A
COFFEE?

BINGO.

MOMENTS LATER.

THAT'S PRETTY IMPRESSIVE RESEARCH YOU'VE DONE. DIDN'T KNOW THE WENDIGO WAS AS POPULAR AS BIGFOOT. BUT THE BIT ABOUT IT ACTUALLY BEING A PERSON CURSED WITH A CREATURE'S SPIRIT AND BODY, IS A BIT MUCH.

STILL, IF A GUY LIKE THOR CAN EXIST, THEN ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE.

WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY, WHEN THEY HAVE AN EXPERT CORONER FROM CALGARY, THE R.C.M.P. INSIST ON SHIPPING RESULTS TO VANCOUVER FOR ANOTHER OPINION.

SEEMS LIKE RED TAPE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN COMFORTING THE DEAD BOY'S PARENTS.

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT THEY MUST BE GOING THROUGH?

I GUESS IN A SMALL WAY I CAN. LOST A GIRLFRIEND ONCE. THOUGHT THE WORLD OF HER. WAS THE FIRST TIME I WAS TRULY IN LOVE.

WE EVEN THOUGHT WE MIGHT GET MARRIED.

BUT I COULDN'T PROTECT HER. COULDN'T HELP.

NOW I'M HAPPILY MARRIED TO A WOMAN WHO GIVES MY LIFE MORE MEANING THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE. STILL, I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER HOW THINGS MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

THEN THE GUILT SETS IN FOR EVEN THINKING ABOUT IT. BUT I CAN'T FORGET. THAT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT, EITHER.

I'M SORRY FOR YOUR PAIN, PETER. I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU, YOU SURE BREAK THE TYPICAL NEW YORKER STEREOTYPE ALL TO PIECES.

HUH?

OH, EXCUSE ME, ANNA, I DON'T USUALLY FEEL SORRY FOR MYSELF. IT'S JUST THE THOUGHT OF THOSE BOYS AND THAT THING.

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. THIS STORY HAS GOTTEN WAY TOO PERSONAL WITH ME, TOO.

"UNFORTUNATELY, I'VE GOT AN EDITOR BACK IN VANCOUVER WHO EXPECTS MY COLUMN EVERY DAY.

"AND TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, PETER, I COULD USE THE BOOST THAT THIS STORY HAS GIVEN MY CAREER.

"NOT TO MENTION THE EXTRA MONEY.

"MY JOB IS TO WRITE SOMETHING THAT SELLS PAPERS, EVEN IF I DON'T HAVE ALL THE FACTS."



50 cents minimum outside Lower Mainland

The Vancouver Sun

SAVAGE KILLER STILL LOOSE

Daniel B. Lewis, the East Village drifter accused of murdering and dismembering a Swiss dancer, served a soup containing human body parts to homeless people in Tompkins Square after the alleged killing, a



50 CENTS

The centerpiece of the legal strategy used to force the city out of welfare hotels stood endangered yesterday. In an unexpected move, the state attorney general stepped into Manhattan Supreme Court yesterday and argued that New York City is not obliged to place homeless families in welfare hotels with

NIGHTFALL,
FINALLY.

TIME TO CHECK OUT
WHERE THE FIRST
BOY WAS FOUND.

REPORTER
SAID
CREATURE
LAID BOY
OUT ON
ROAD.

THIS IS IT.

NO BLOOD. JUST
SOME MOSS AND
DIRT LEFT
BEHIND.

STENCH OF RUBBER
STILL STRONG FROM
THE REPORTER'S
CAR.

AND MY SUSPICIONS
ARE CORRECT.

DIDN'T WANT TO
BELIEVE IT WAS
BACK.

THEN
WHY'D
YOU
COME?

BUT NOW I'VE
GOT A TRAIL.

YOUR INSTINCTS
ALWAYS RIGHT.

WENDIGO.

THIS COUNTRY
KEEPS
TURNING ITS
MYTHS INTO
REALITY.

HUMANITY.
WHAT A
CONCEPT.

HERE'S WHERE
THE BODY WAS
BURIED.

THE GROUND IS
STILL MOIST
WITH BLOOD.
NATURE'S
WAY OF GIVING
ME CLUES.

AND UNLESS MY
SENSES HAVE GONE
HAYWIRE -- WHICH
THEY HAVEN'T --
THIS AREA IS IN BIG
TROUBLE.

GOTTA FIND
SOMEONE IN
TOWN I CAN
TRUST.

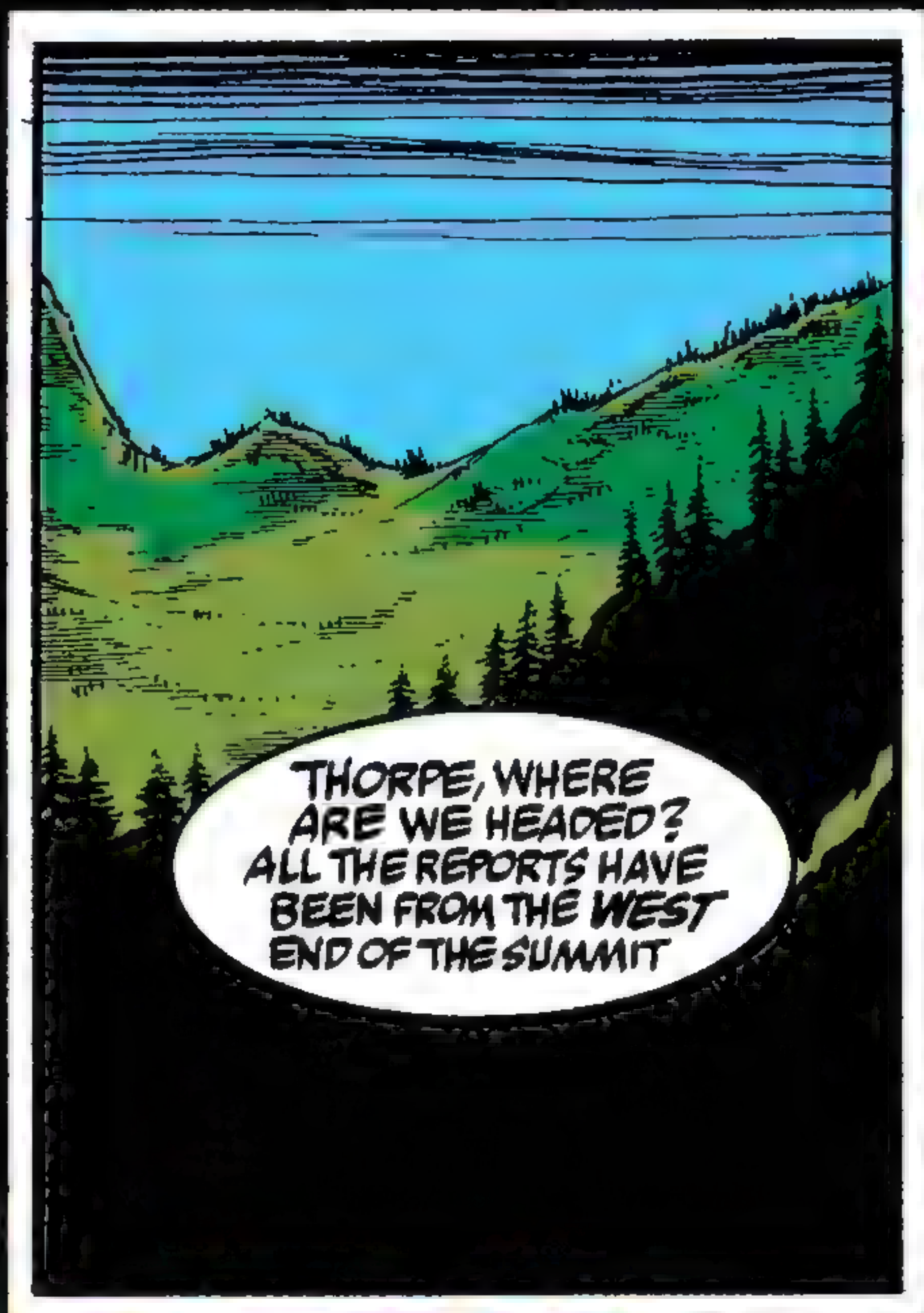
NOW WE'VE
GOT A
BABY-
KILLER.

CREATURE'S
SCENT IS
LIKE A
BEACON.
ONLY THING
INTERFERING
IS THE SMELL
OF THE DEAD
ANIMALS.

NICE
RATIONALE.
WE CAN'T
FIND ONE
CREATURE,
SO SLAUGHTER
ANOTHER.
EVENTUALLY
WE MIGHT BE
RIGHT.

FORTUNATELY,
I WON'T LIVE
FOREVER.

THERE ARE
OTHER BODIES
OUT HERE.

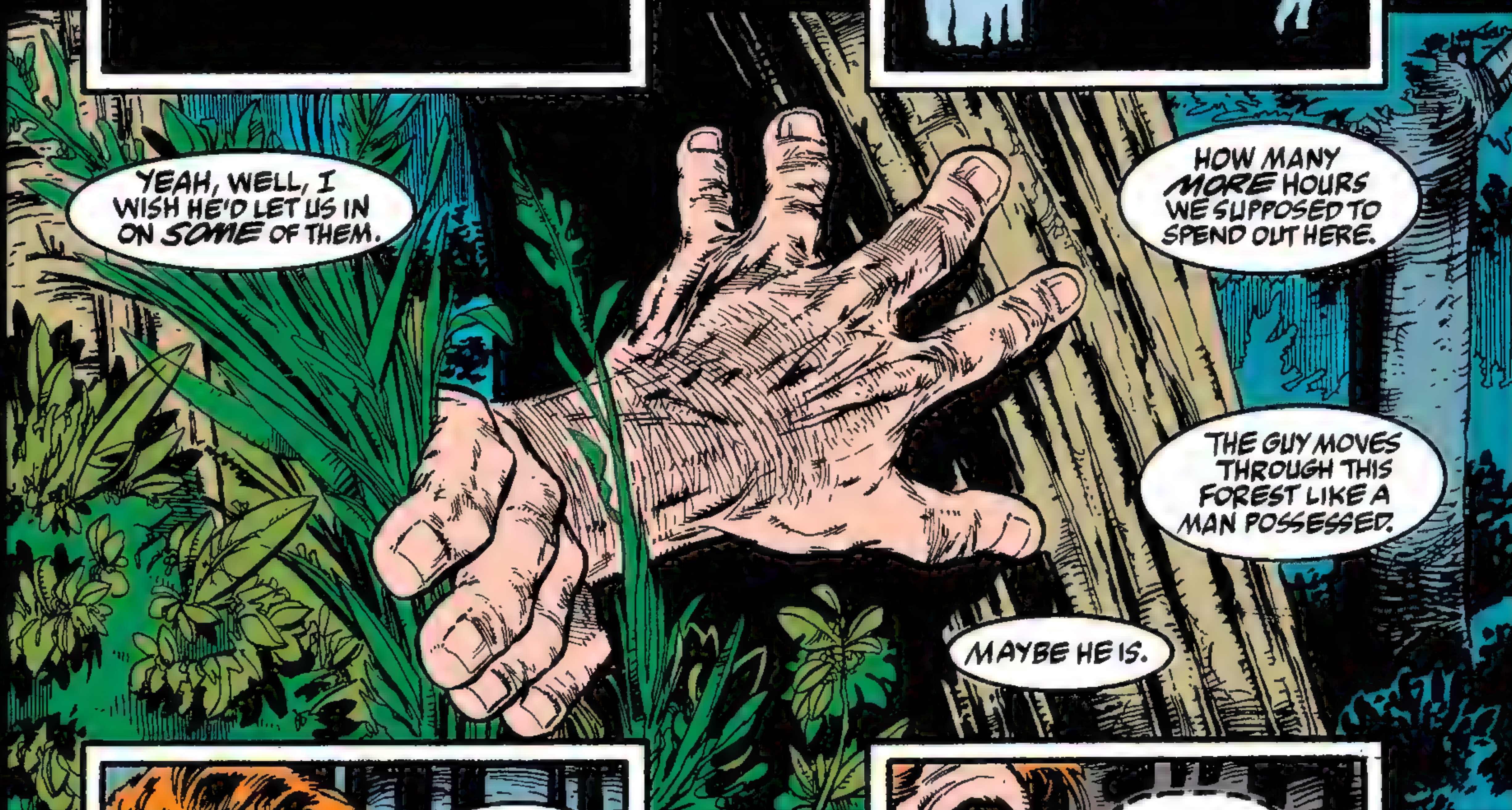


THORPE, WHERE
ARE WE HEADED?
ALL THE REPORTS HAVE
BEEN FROM THE WEST
END OF THE SUMMIT



THE MAN'S A LOONY,
JOHN. HE'S ALSO GOOD
AT WHAT HE DOES.

HE MUST
HAVE HIS
REASONS.



YEAH, WELL, I
WISH HE'D LET US IN
ON *SOME* OF THEM.

HOW MANY
MORE HOURS
WE SUPPOSED TO
SPEND OUT HERE.

THE GUY MOVES
THROUGH THIS
FOREST LIKE A
MAN POSSESSED.

MAYBE HE IS.



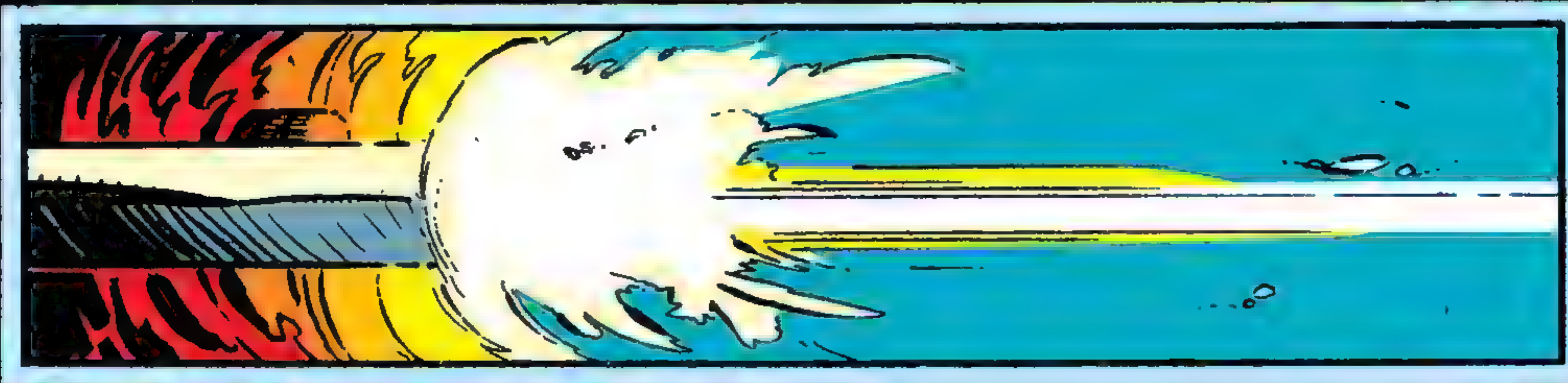
GREAT.

BEHOLD,
GENTLEMEN--



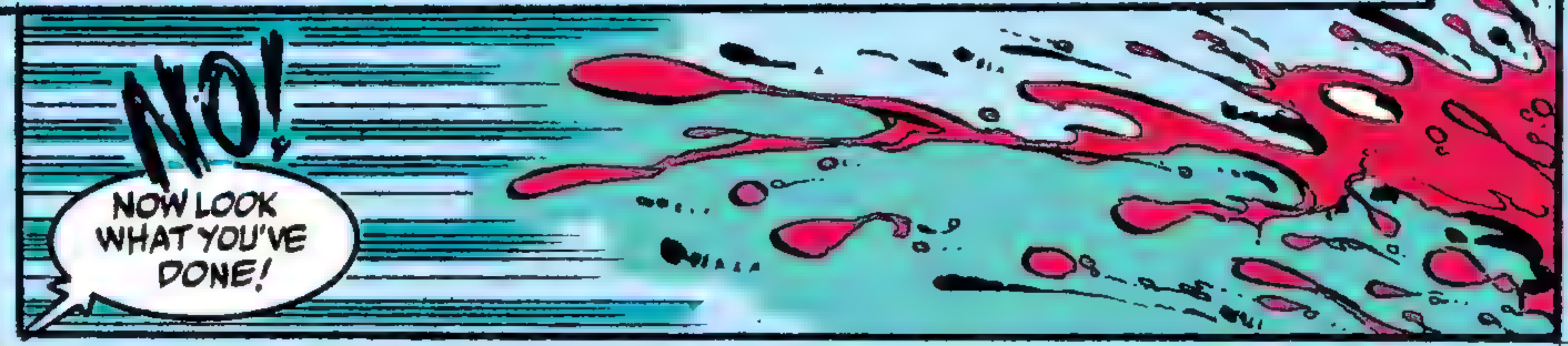
--YOUR
TREASURE.

NO ONE
MOVE.

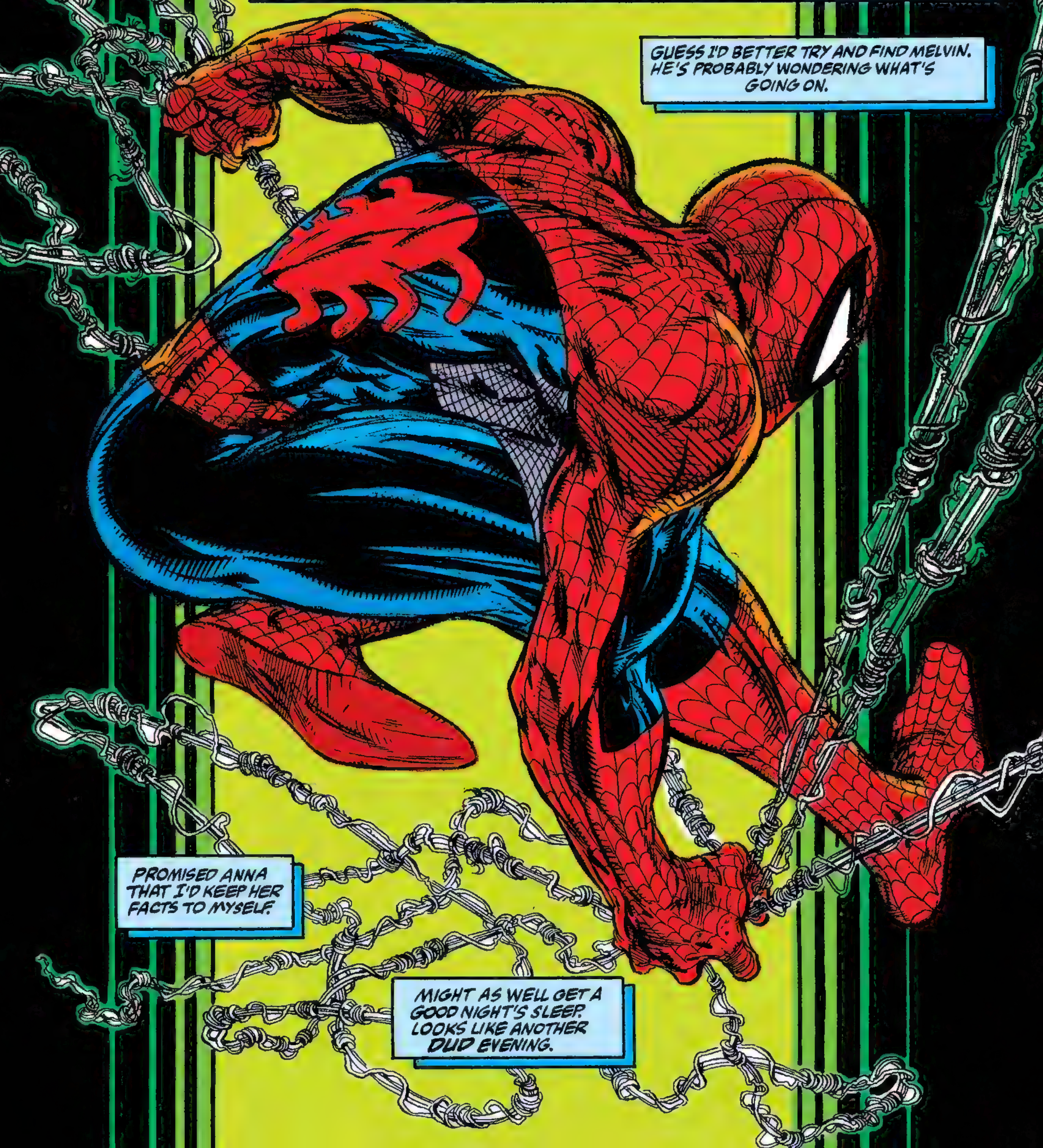


NO!

NOW LOOK
WHAT YOU'VE
DONE!



GUESS I'D BETTER TRY AND FIND MELVIN.
HE'S PROBABLY WONDERING WHAT'S
GOING ON.



PROMISED ANNA
THAT I'D KEEP HER
FACTS TO MYSELF.

MIGHT AS WELL GET A
GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER
DUD EVENING.

THAT WASN'T AN
ANIMAL'S SCREAM
I JUST HEARD.

THE WENDIGO HAS
JUST BEEN FOUND. BY
FOOLS.

★★★★
FINAL

DAILY BUGLE

THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER®

30¢

BIGFOOT EVERYWHERE

Could there be more than one?

Daniel Rakoff, the East Village drifter accused of murdering and dismembering a Swiss dancer, served a soup containing a body parts to homeless people in Tompkins Square Park days after the alleged murder. Prosecution witness testifies that Rakoff covered a soup dish

On cross-examination, defense lawyer Franklyn Gould sought to discredit Rakoff's testimony to his extensive criminal record.

least 60 days, eliminating its daily production of gaso-



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"PERCEPTIONS" PART 3 OF 5

SPIDER-MAN[®]



McFARLANE

50
YEARS



OF
CAPTAIN AMERICA

1941 - 1991

WOLVERINE[®]
WENDIGO![™]
AND THE
WEB-HEAD![™]

THOSE FRAGGIN'
IDIOTS. WHY'D
THEY TRY AND KILL
SOMETHING WHEN
THEY DON'T HAVE
ALL THE ANSWERS?

A FEW DEAD KIDS AND
ALL SENSE OF REASONING
DISAPPEARS. GUESS
HUMANS JUST NEED
TO PIN THIS ON
SOMETHING.

BUT TO GO AFTER THE
WENDIGO. THAT'S
INSANITY. CREATURE'LL
SHRED 'EM APART
BEFORE THEY BLINK.

BUT CONSIDERING WHAT
THEY'VE DONE TO THE
OTHER ANIMALS, IT'S
THEIR OWN PROBLEM.

YEAH, AND I JUST HAPPEN
TO BE RUNNING IN THE RIGHT
DIRECTION BY COINCIDENCE.

CURSE MY
CONSCIENCE.



PERCEPTIONS 3

PART TODD McFARLANE...PENCILER/WRITER TODD AND FRIENDS...INKERS
RICK PARKER.....LETTERER GREGORY WRIGHT...COLORIST
JIM SALICRUP.....EDITOR TOM DEFALCO...EDITOR IN CHIEF



FIVE HUNDRED METERS AWAY, A NIGHTMARE IS OCCURRING. LED BY THE TOWN TRACKER, SIX MEN ATTEMPTED TO HUNT AND ELIMINATE A CREATURE THAT HAS BEEN KILLING THEIR CHILDREN.

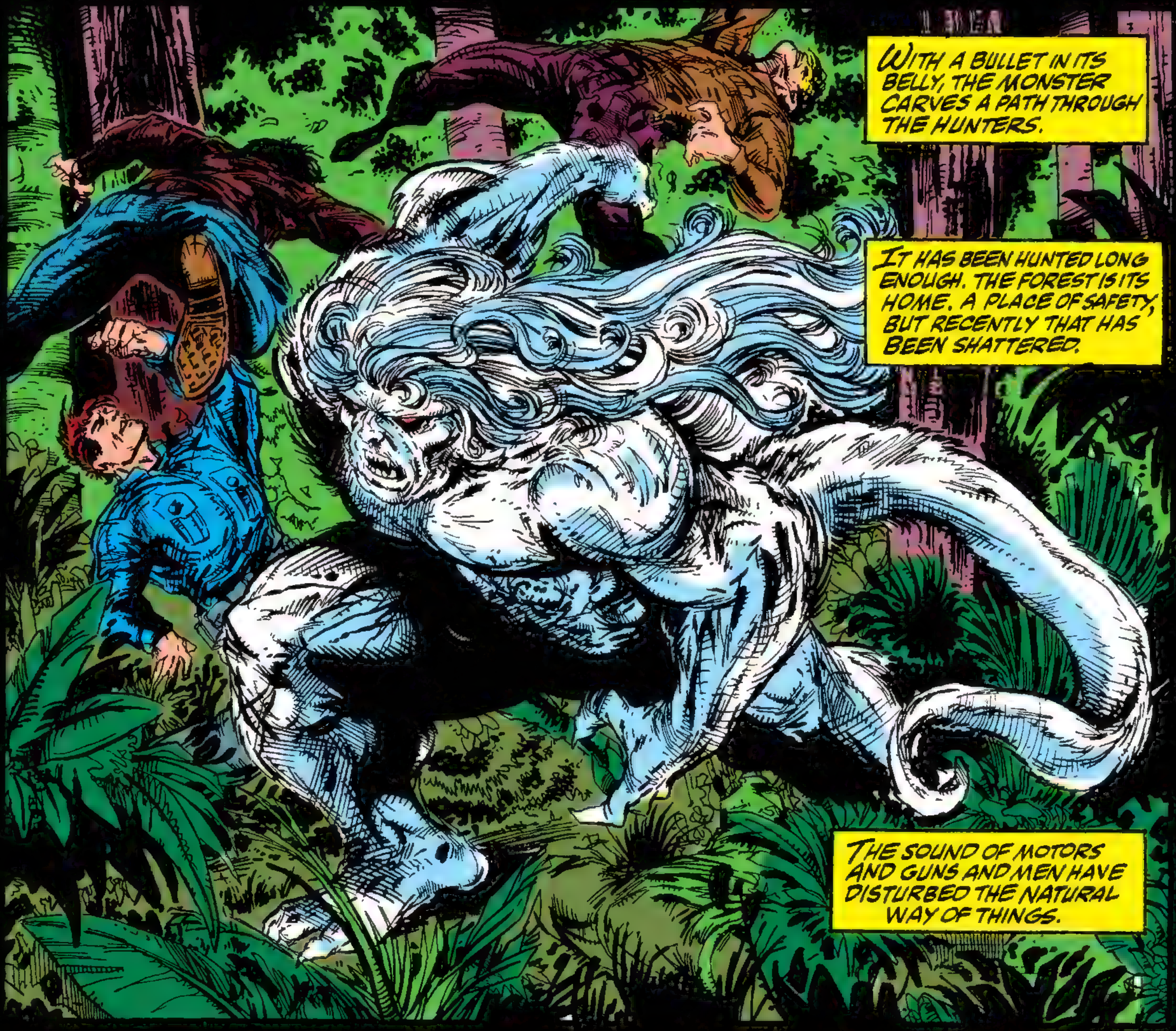
BEFORE THEY COULD GET A JUMP, NERVES GOT THE BETTER PART OF ONE OF THE POSSE.

A SHOT WAS FIRED.

LIKE ANY ANIMAL BACKED INTO A CORNER, THIS WENDIGO MEANS TO DEFEND ITSELF.

TO THE DEATH.

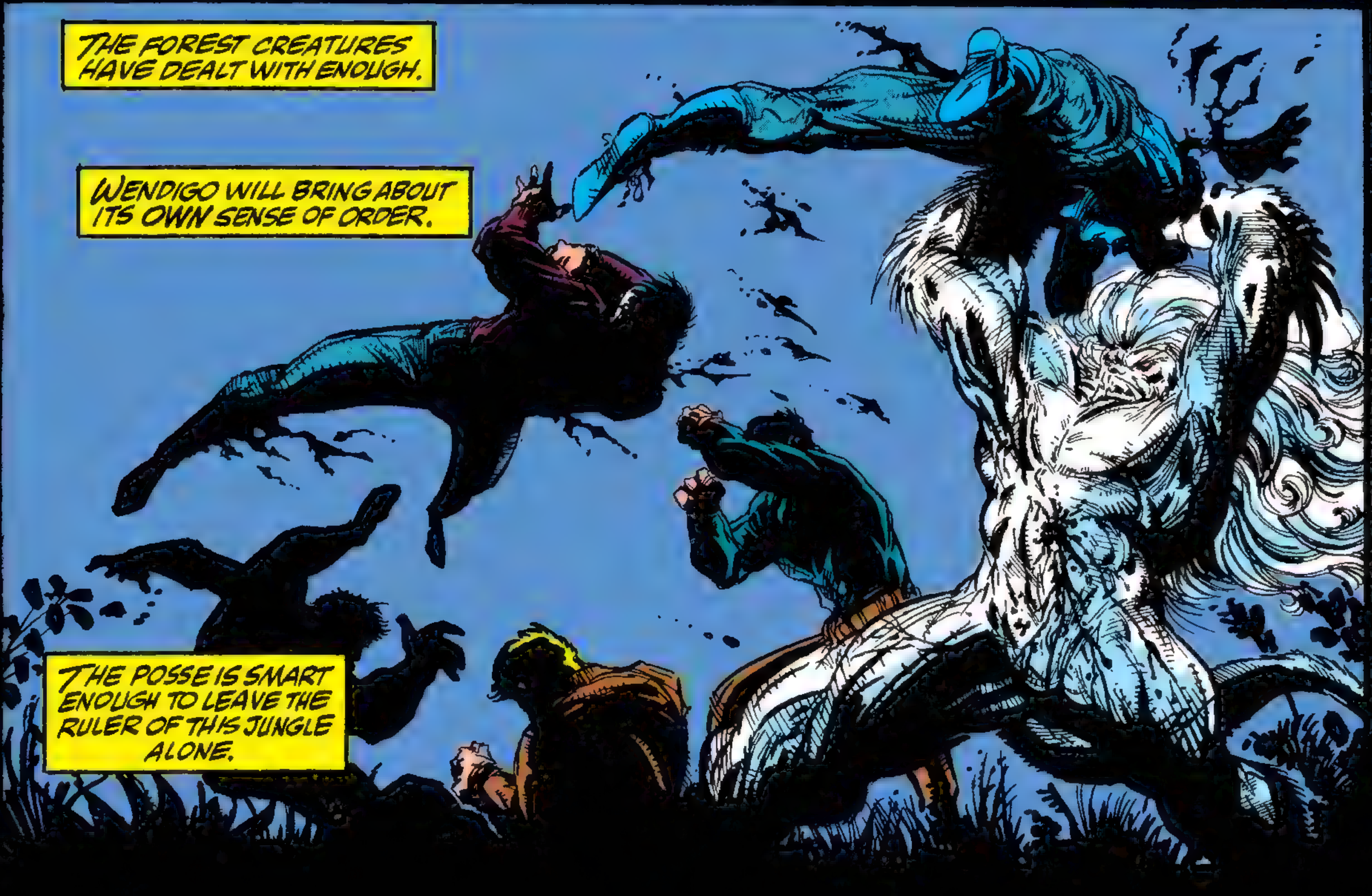
THESE MEN HAD NO IDEA WHAT THIS CREATURE WAS, OR EVEN IF IT TRULY EXISTED. BUT THE ATTEMPT TO PROTECT THEIR OWN SPECIES MAY VERY WELL BE THE LAST THING THEY DO.



WITH A BULLET IN ITS BELLY, THE MONSTER CARVES A PATH THROUGH THE HUNTERS.

IT HAS BEEN HUNTED LONG ENOUGH. THE FOREST IS ITS HOME. A PLACE OF SAFETY, BUT RECENTLY THAT HAS BEEN SHATTERED.

THE SOUND OF MOTORS AND GUNS AND MEN HAVE DISTURBED THE NATURAL WAY OF THINGS.



THE FOREST CREATURES HAVE DEALT WITH ENOUGH.

WENDIGO WILL BRING ABOUT ITS OWN SENSE OF ORDER.

THE POSSE IS SMART ENOUGH TO LEAVE THE RULER OF THIS JUNGLE ALONE.

THEY CAN'T PAY
ME ENOUGH...

NO WAY
AM I GONNA
DIE FOR SOME
GODFORSAKEN
MONSTER.

WE'VE GOTTA
TELL THE
INSPECTOR.

HEY,
WHERE'S
EDDIE?

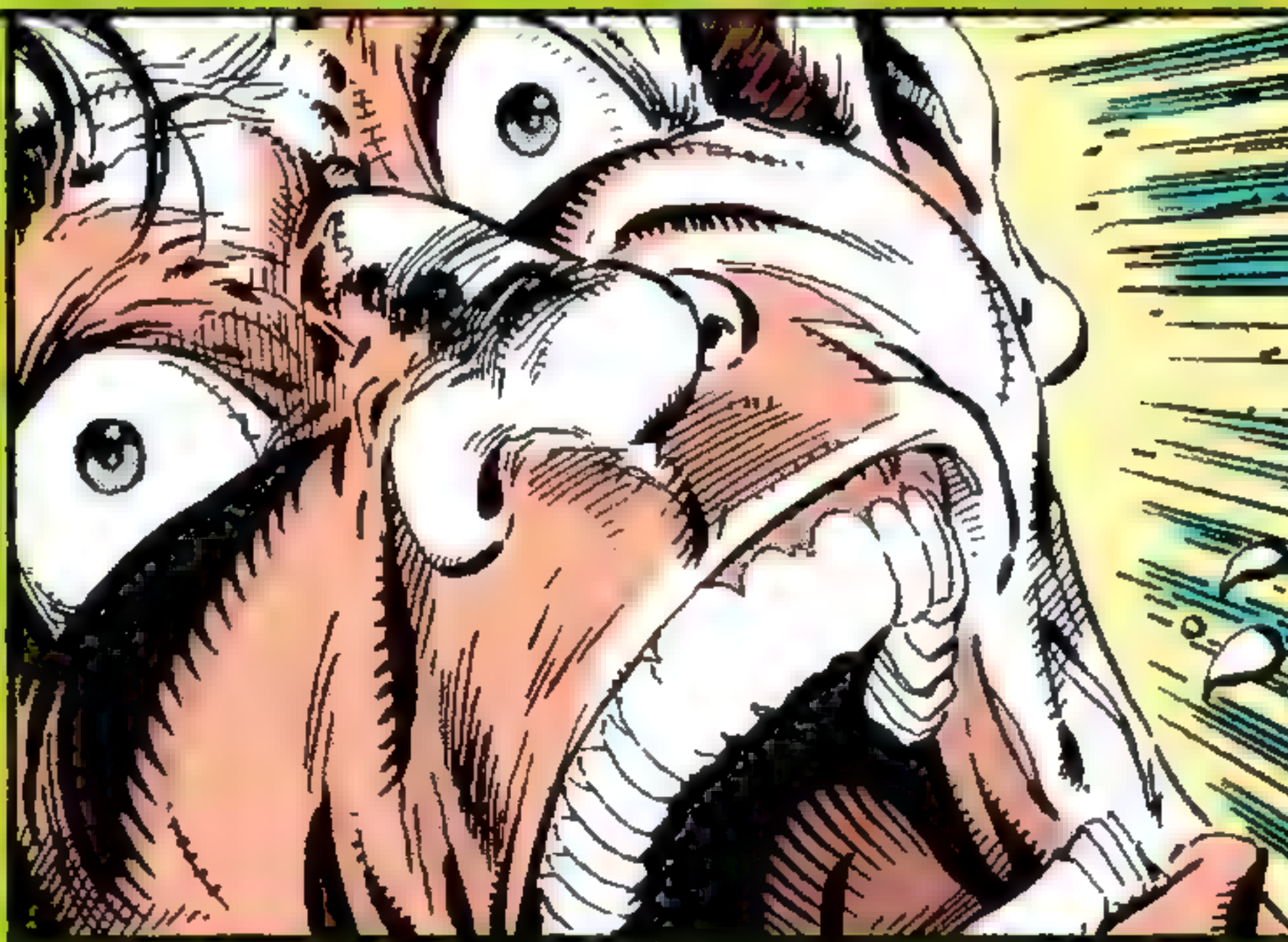


"DID THAT CHICKEN GET A
HEAD START ALREADY? HE
BETTER NOT HAVE TAKEN
THE WAGON."

WEN-DI-GO

G-GO AHEAD
AND KILL ME. SEE
IF IT TAKES YOU AS
LONG TO SLAUGHTER
A MAN, INSTEAD OF
CHILDREN.

THE CREATURE
JUST STARES.



FINALLY, IT RAISES ITS ARM
FOR THE DEATH BLOW.

AT THAT MOMENT, EDDIE IS
GRIPPED BY FEAR. IN THE BACK
OF HIS MIND HE THINKS THAT
THIS IS WHAT THE CHILDREN
WENT THROUGH, TOO.

SUDDENLY...

**... LIKE SOME WILD BANSHEE,
WOLVERINE STRIKES.**

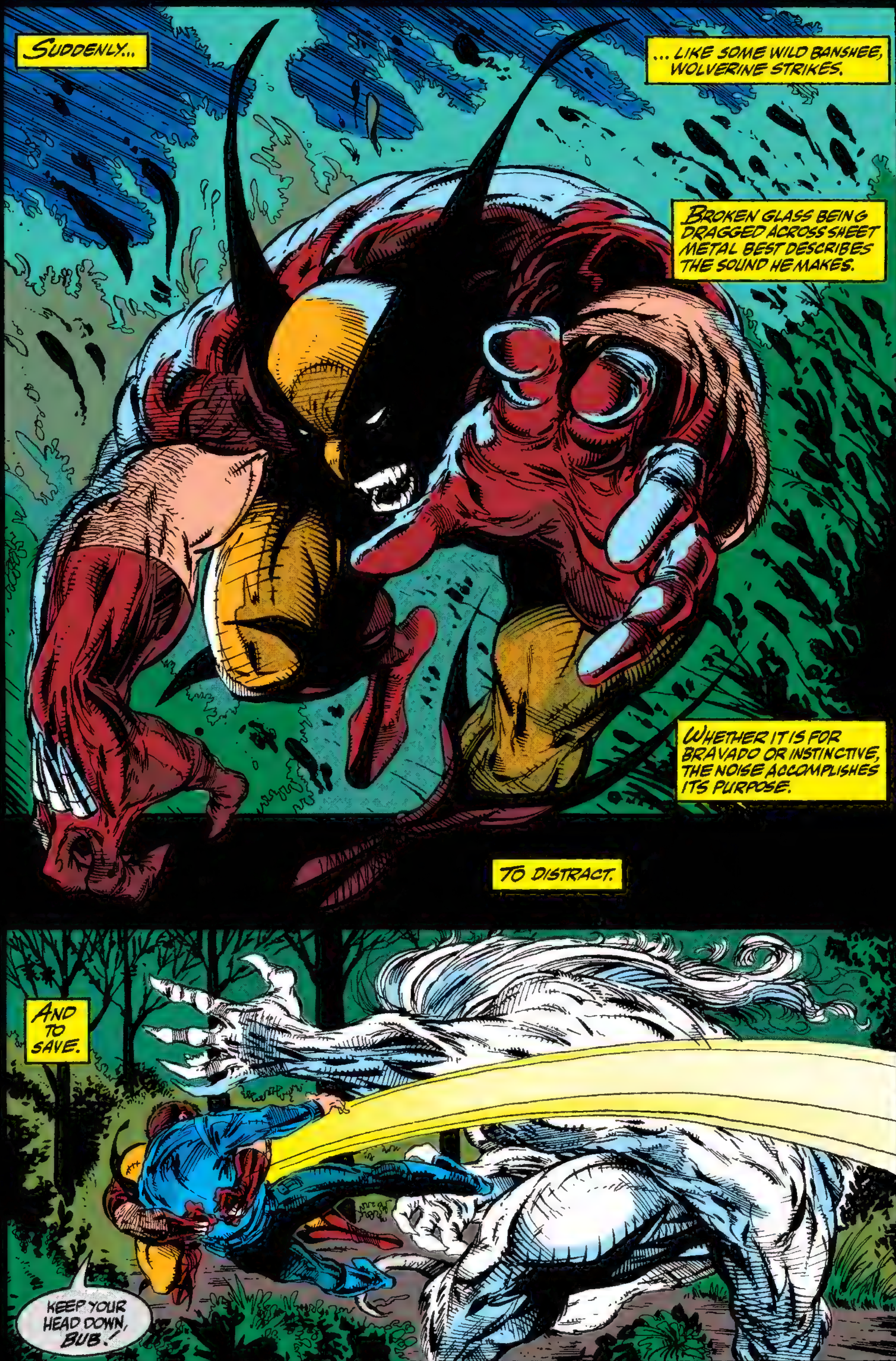
**BROKEN GLASS BEING
DRAGGED ACROSS SHEET
METAL BEST DESCRIBES
THE SOUND HE MAKES.**

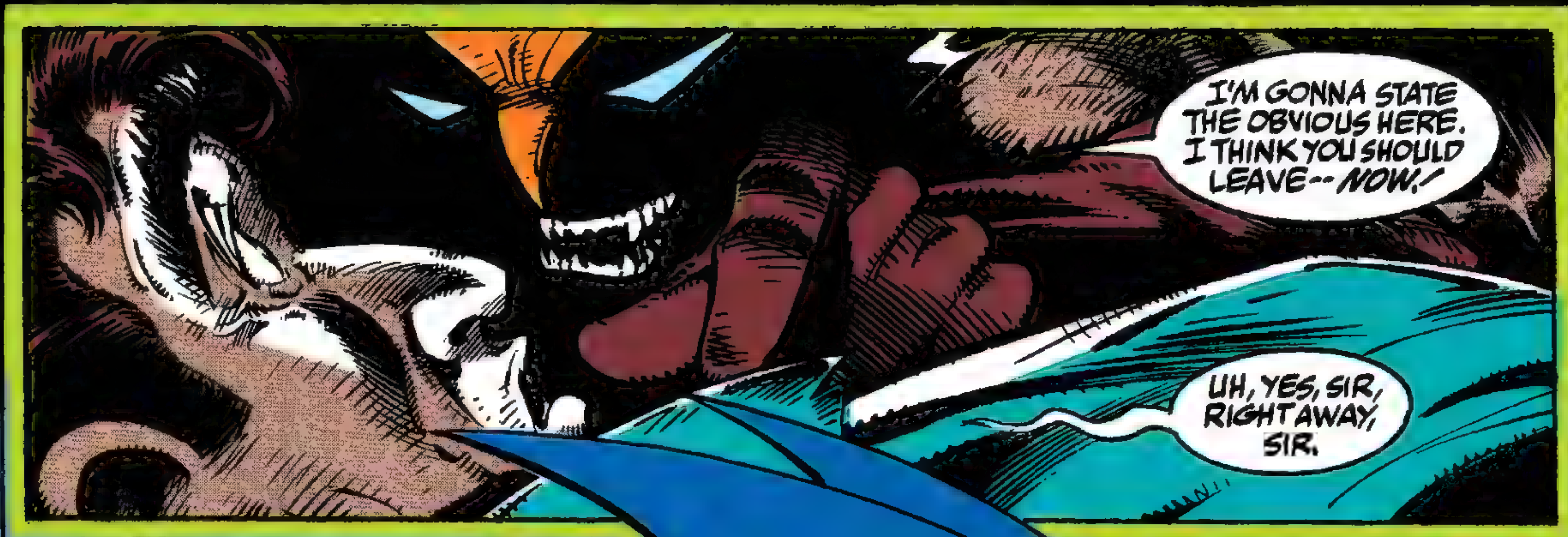
**WHETHER IT IS FOR
BRAVADO OR INSTINCTIVE,
THE NOISE ACCOMPLISHES
ITS PURPOSE.**

TO DISTRACT.

**AND
TO SAVE.**

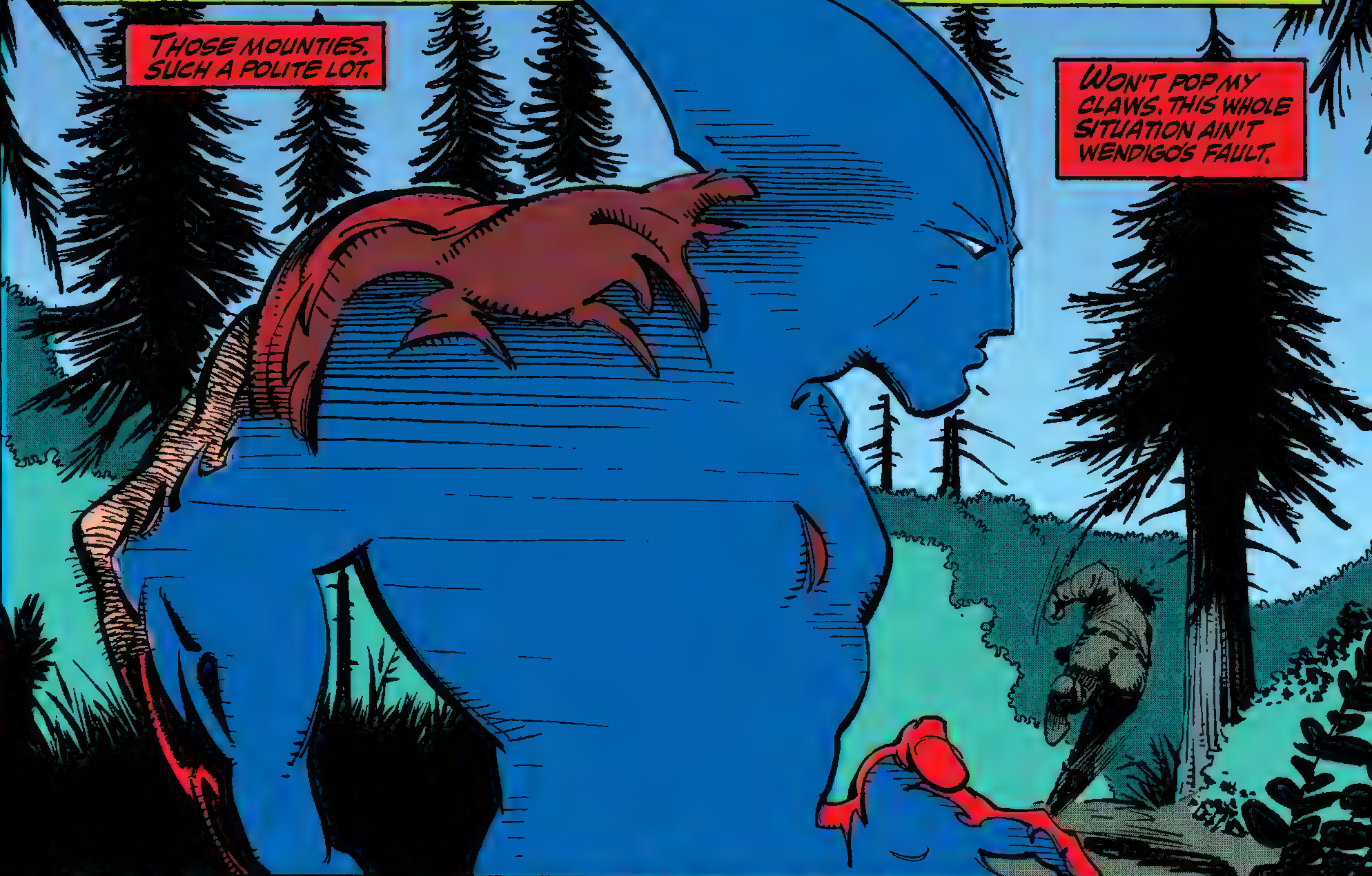
**KEEP YOUR
HEAD DOWN,
BUB!**





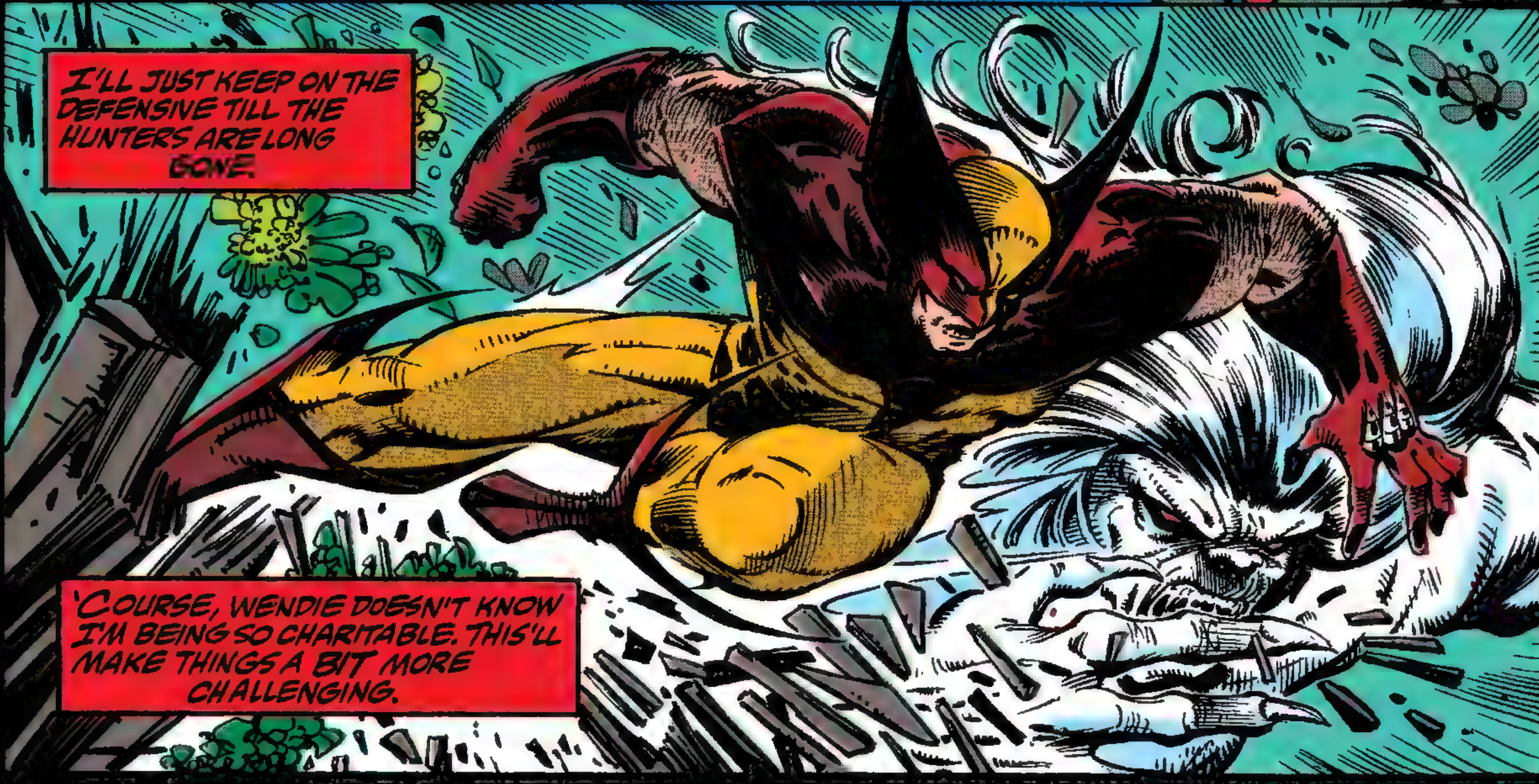
I'M GONNA STATE THE OBVIOUS HERE. I THINK YOU SHOULD LEAVE-- NOW!

UH, YES, SIR, RIGHTAWAY, SIR.



THOSE MOUNTIES. SUCH A POLITE LOT.

WON'T POP MY CLAWS. THIS WHOLE SITUATION AIN'T WENDIGOS FAULT.

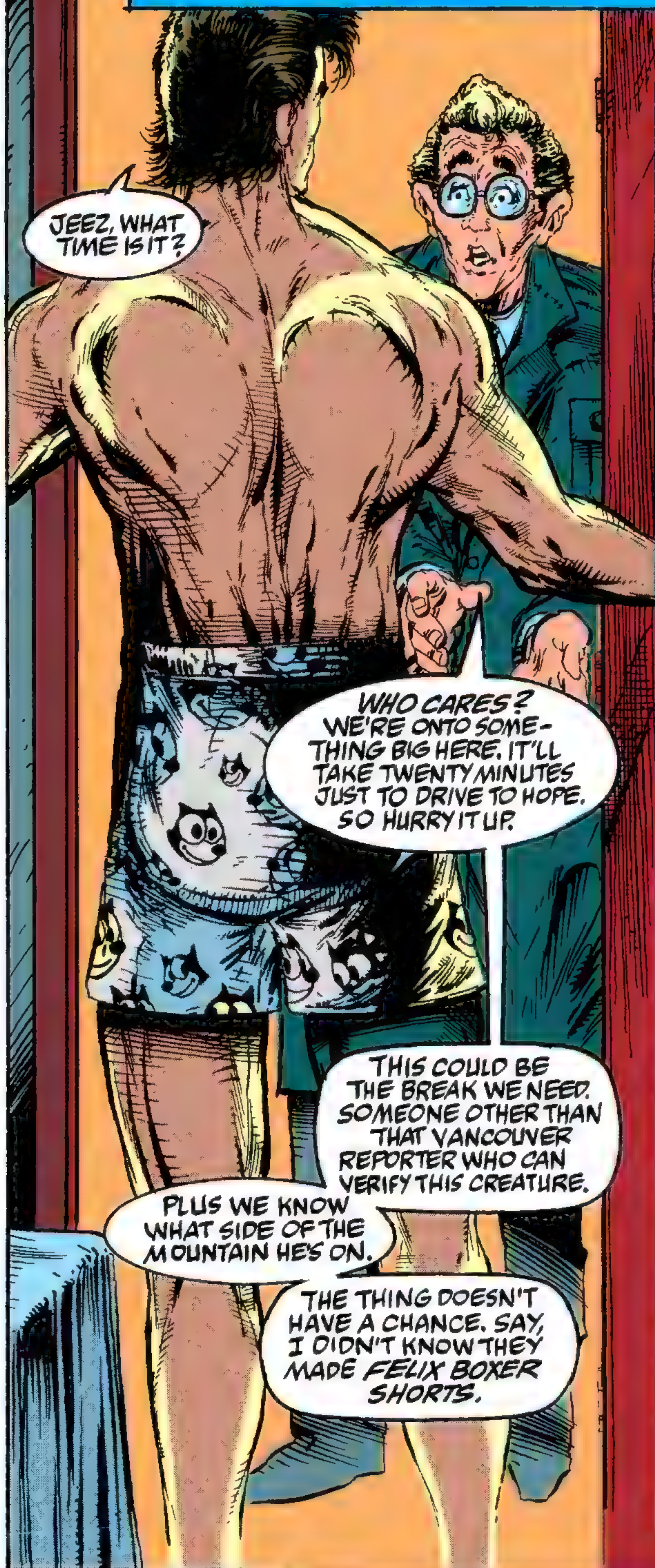


I'LL JUST KEEP ON THE DEFENSIVE TILL THE HUNTERS ARE LONG GONE.

'COURSE, WENDIE DOESN'T KNOW I'M BEING SO CHARITABLE. THIS'LL MAKE THINGS A BIT MORE CHALLENGING.



C'MON, PETER, WAKE UP. WE'VE GOT A STORY. SOME COPS ARE BACK IN TOWN. SAID THEY MET THE BIGFOOT.



JEEZ, WHAT TIME IS IT?

WHO CARES? WE'RE ONTO SOMETHING BIG HERE. IT'LL TAKE TWENTY MINUTES JUST TO DRIVE TO HOPE. SO HURRY IT UP.

THIS COULD BE THE BREAK WE NEED. SOMEONE OTHER THAN THAT VANCOUVER REPORTER WHO CAN VERIFY THIS CREATURE.

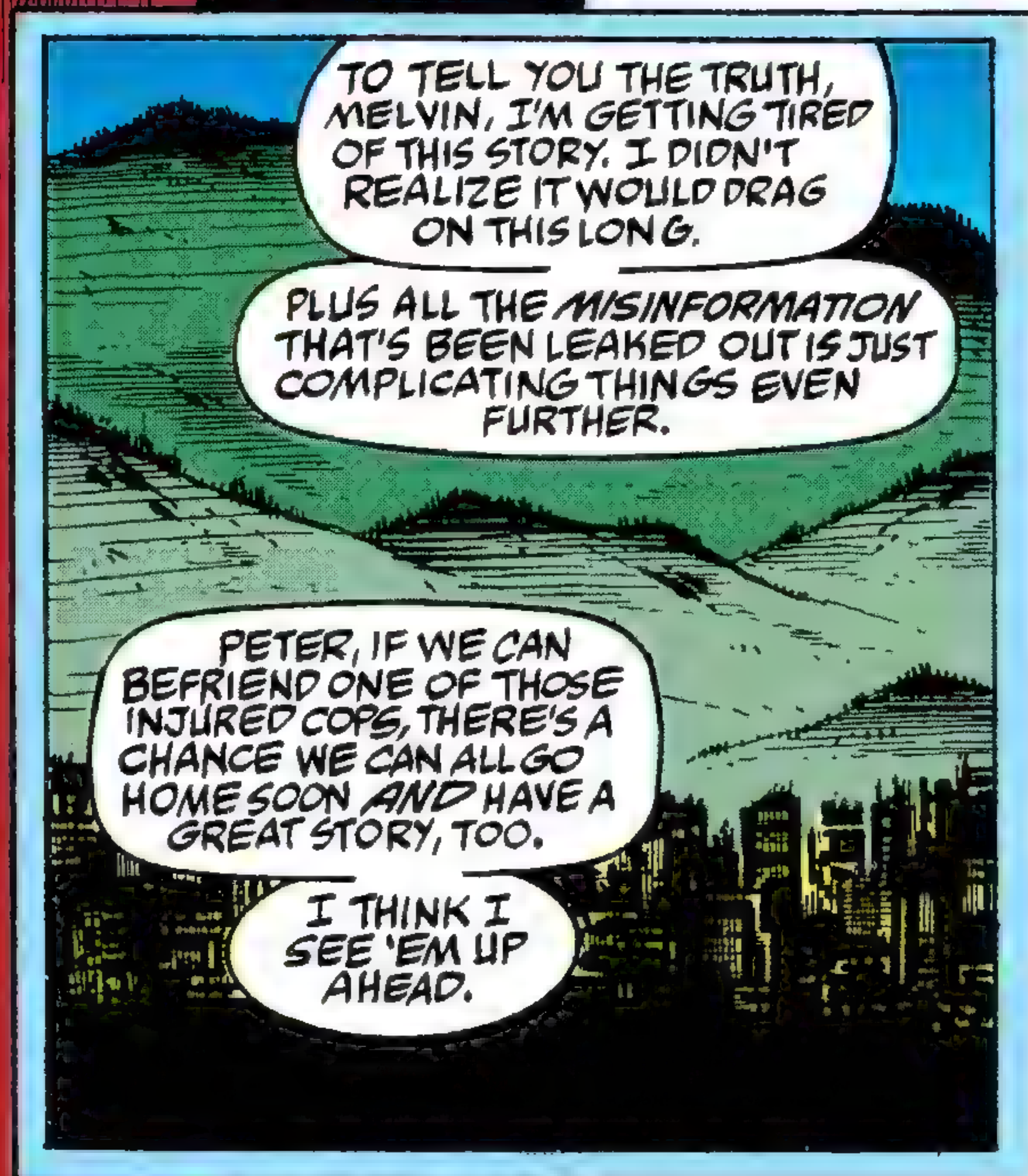
PLUS WE KNOW WHAT SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN HE'S ON.

THE THING DOESN'T HAVE A CHANCE. SAY, I DIDN'T KNOW THEY MADE FELIX BOXER SHORTS.



MELVIN, I'LL SEE IF I CAN'T FIND YOU A CLEAN PAIR. C'MON IN AND SIT DOWN. I'LL BE READY IN A MINUTE.

THAT MELVIN, WHAT A JERK.



TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, MELVIN, I'M GETTING TIRED OF THIS STORY. I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WOULD DRAG ON THIS LONG.

PLUS ALL THE MISINFORMATION THAT'S BEEN LEAKED OUT IS JUST COMPLICATING THINGS EVEN FURTHER.

PETER, IF WE CAN BEFRIEND ONE OF THOSE INJURED COPS, THERE'S A CHANCE WE CAN ALL GO HOME SOON AND HAVE A GREAT STORY, TOO.

I THINK I SEE 'EM UP AHEAD.

A large, muscular, red-skinned creature with yellow horns and a mask is attacking Wolverine. Wolverine is on the ground, surrounded by debris, with his claws extended. The creature is leaning over him, and there are blood splatters and motion lines indicating a violent impact.

LOVELY.

WENDIGO'S EXERTING
HIMSELF TOO MUCH.
HE CAN'T AFFORD TO
LOSE MORE BLOOD.
BULLET MUST HAVE
HIT AN ARTERY.

SO IF HE DOESN'T
STOP FIGHTING, HE'S
GONNA BE IN
SERIOUS TROUBLE.

NOT THAT I'M
ENJOYING THIS.

The Wendigo is shown from a side profile, looking down at Wolverine. He has a determined and somewhat weary expression. His red skin and yellow horns are prominent. Wolverine is lying on the ground, looking up at the Wendigo. The background is a dark, rocky landscape with some debris.

AW, NO! NOT
AGAIN.

C'MON, WOLVIE, DO
BOTH OF US A FAVOR
AND END THIS.

THEN GET INTO TOWN
AND FIND AN ALLY.
LET 'EM KNOW WHAT
I'VE FOUND OUT
HERE.

EVERYONE'S
ON A WILD GOOSE
CHASE.



Los Angeles Post

BIGFOOT ATTACKS ADULTS

CHICAGO GLOBE
*MOUNTIES ESCAPE
DEATH*

★★★★
FINAL

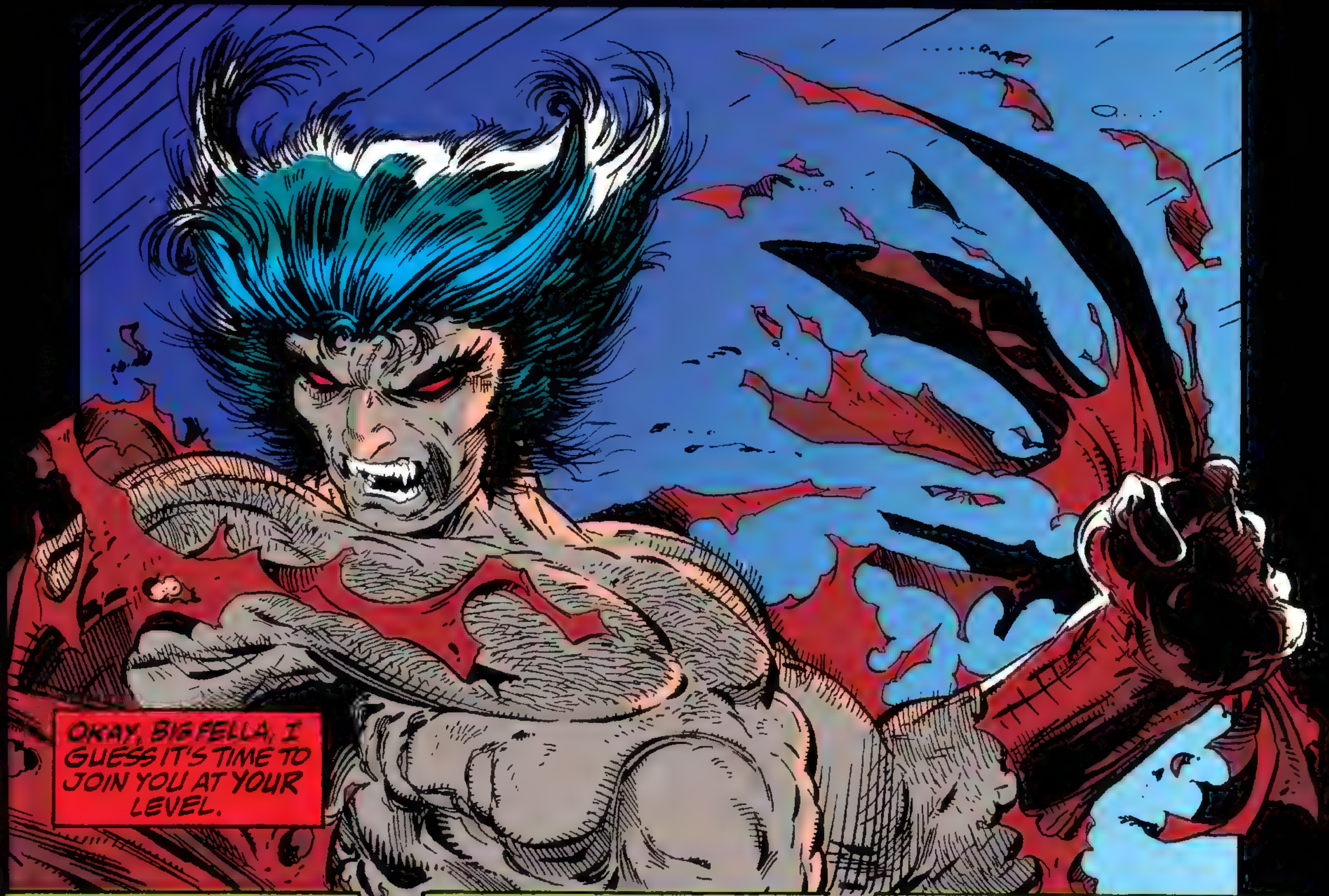
DAILY  **BUGLE**

THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER®

30¢

30¢

SASQUATCH DINES ON COPS



OKAY, BIG FELLA, I
GUESS IT'S TIME TO
JOIN YOU AT YOUR
LEVEL.



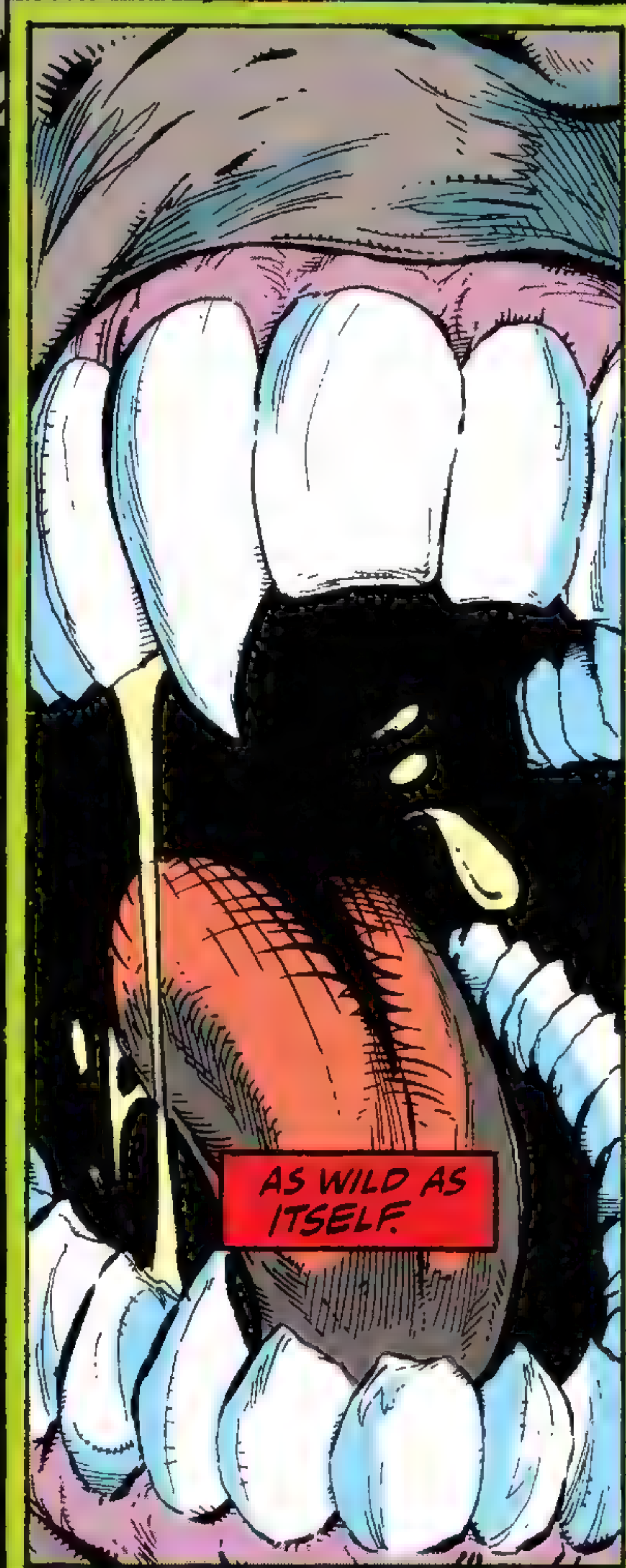
COSTUME WAS
BUGGIN' ME.

I NEED TO BE
AS FREE AS
POSSIBLE.

SEE HOW IT
REACTS TO
SOMETHING AS
SAVAGE



AS ANIMALISTIC



AS WILD AS
ITSELF.



I DRAG MY SCREAM OUT FOR THIRTY SECONDS, THEN I JUST STARE AT WENDIE. HE WON'T LOOK AT ME.

NEVER HAD A SHOWDOWN BEFORE. DON'T THINK HE LIKES IT.

NOT MY PROBLEM.

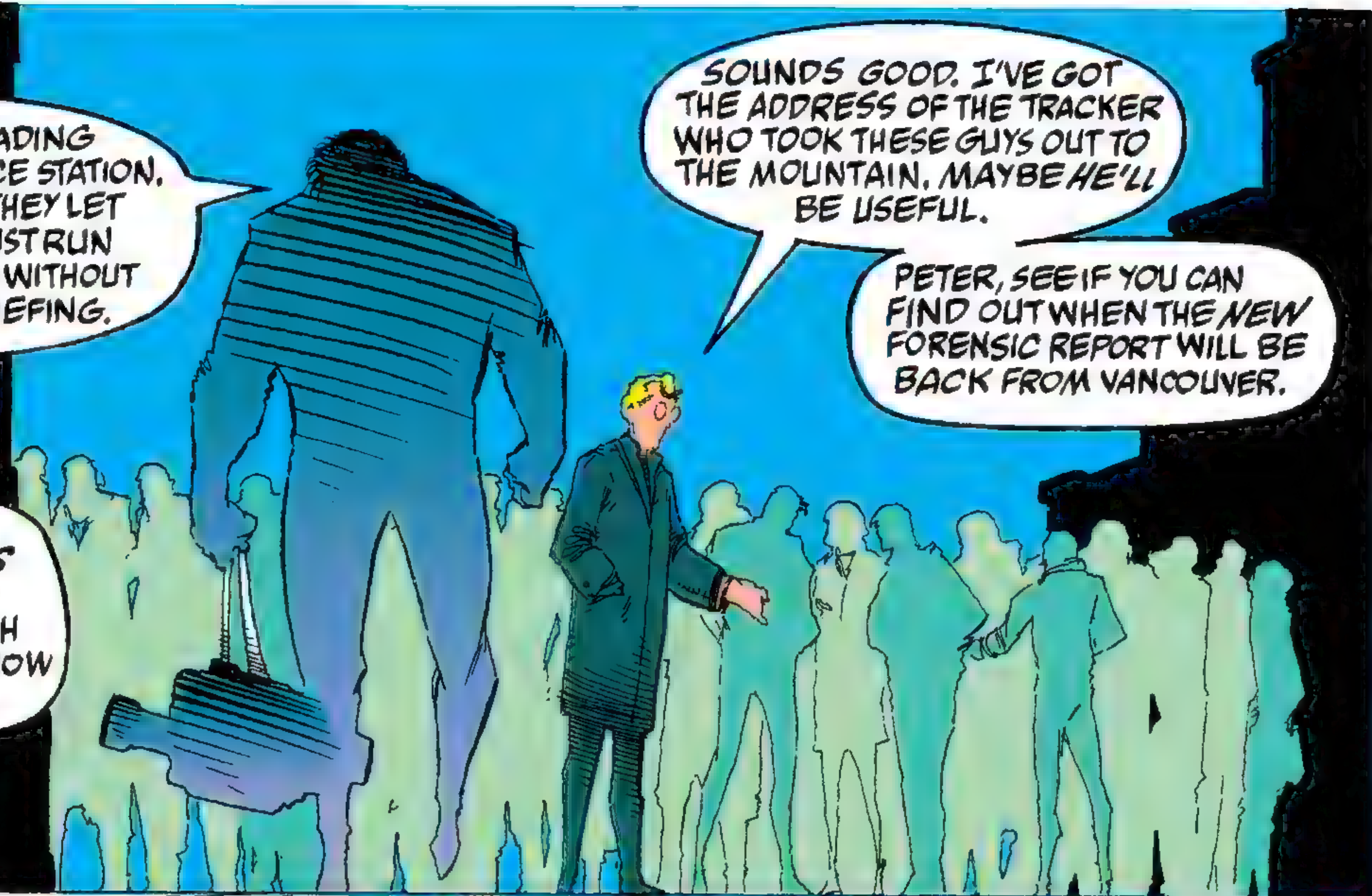
MAYBE HE'S LOST TOO MUCH BLOOD. MAYBE HE'S JUST HAD ENOUGH OF US STINKING HUMANS.



WHATEVER THE REASON, HE JUST LEAVES.

I'VE GOT TO GET TO TOWN AND STRAIGHTEN THIS MESS UP. BEEN TOO MANY INNOCENT DEATHS ALREADY.

ON BOTH SIDES.




MELVIN, I'M HEADING OVER TO THE POLICE STATION. I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY LET THOSE OFFICERS JUST RUN OFF AT THE MOUTH WITHOUT ANY KIND OF DEBRIEFING.


SOUNDS GOOD. I'VE GOT THE ADDRESS OF THE TRACKER WHO TOOK THESE GUYS OUT TO THE MOUNTAIN. MAYBE HE'LL BE USEFUL.

PETER, SEE IF YOU CAN FIND OUT WHEN THE NEW FORENSIC REPORT WILL BE BACK FROM VANCOUVER.

THEN I'M GOING TO FIND MS. BROOKS AND SEE IF SHE HAS ANY LEADS. I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU TOMORROW BACK AT THE HOTEL.




YO, SPIDEY, I THINK I COULD USE A BIT OF YOUR HELP.



UH?! WHAT DID YOU SAY?

YOU HEARD ME, BOY. I'VE GOT A SLIGHT PROBLEM WITH THIS WENDIGO FELLA. I THINK YOU CAN HELP.

MEET ME A HALF MILE DUE NORTH OF TOWN IN A COUPLE OF HOURS. YOU'LL GET SOME ANSWERS THEN.



I DISAPPEAR INTO THE NIGHT. BELIEVE ME, I'M JUST AS SURPRISED WITH HIS PRESENCE AS HE IS WITH MINE.

TWO
HOURS
LATER.

I DON'T
KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE,
BUT IT'S TIME
TO FIND OUT!

THAT STRANGER'S
VOICE SOUNDED
FAMILIAR AND HE
DIDN'T SET MY
SPIDER-SENSE
OFF.

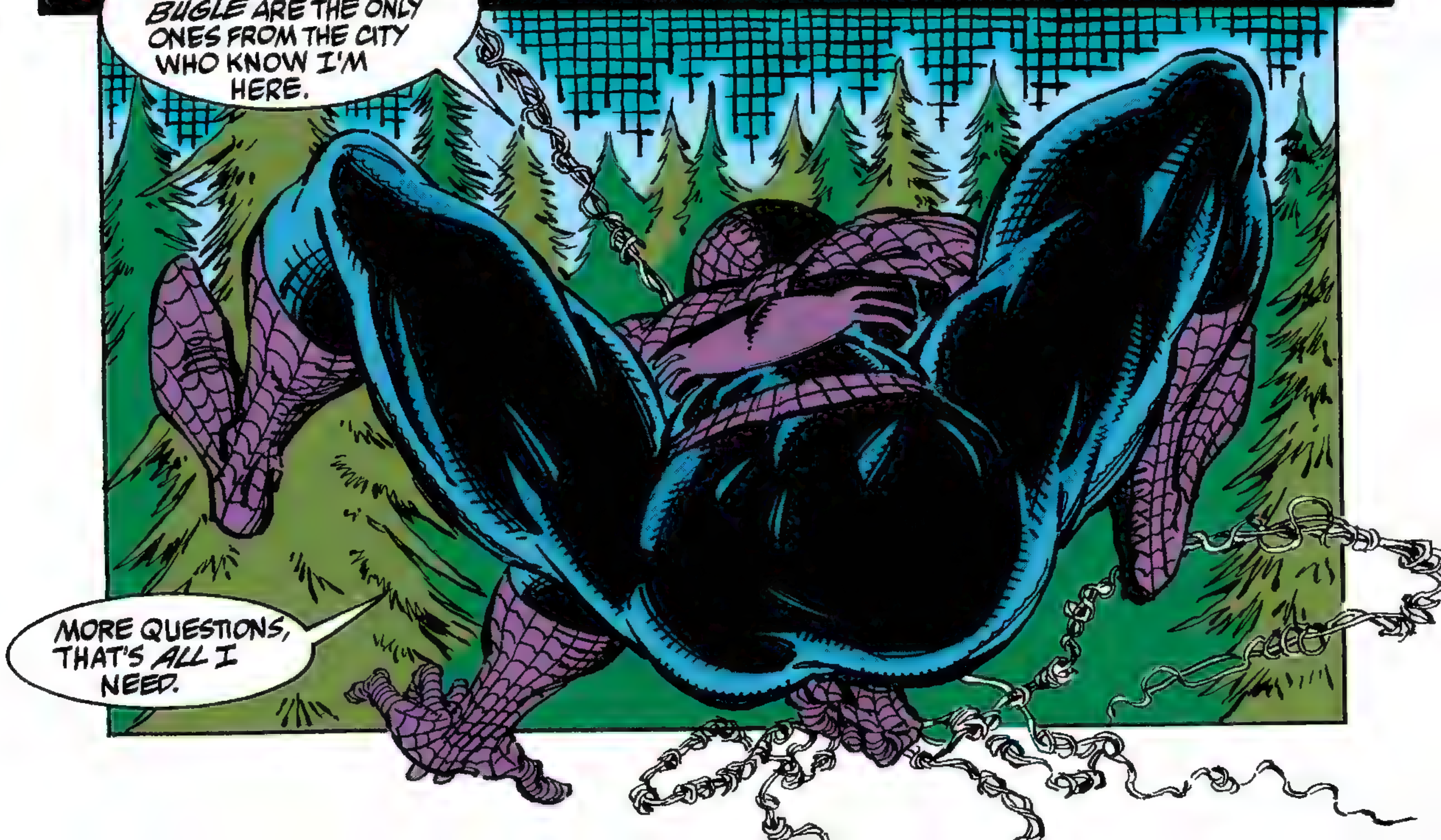
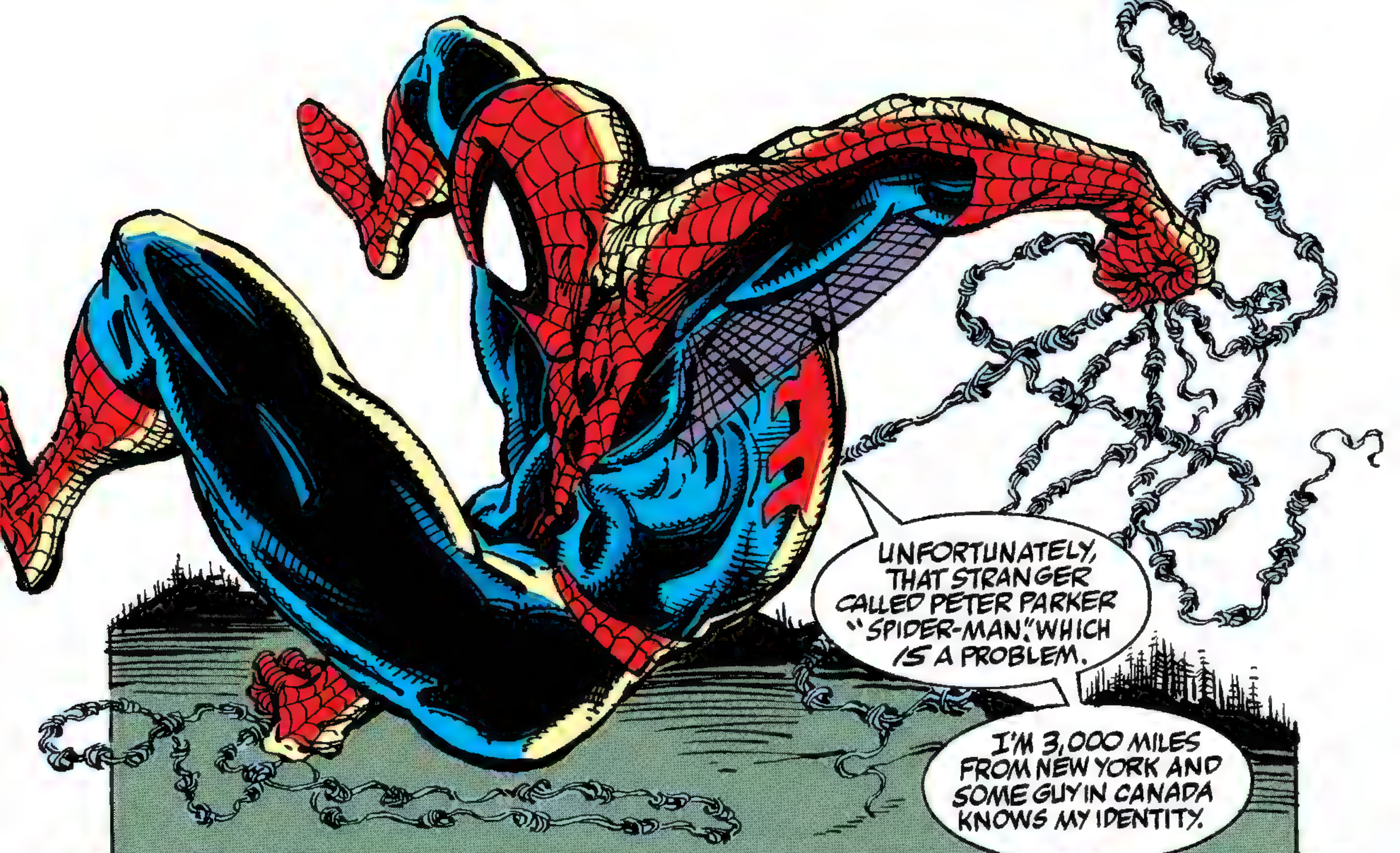
SO I'VE
GOT THAT
GOING FOR
ME.

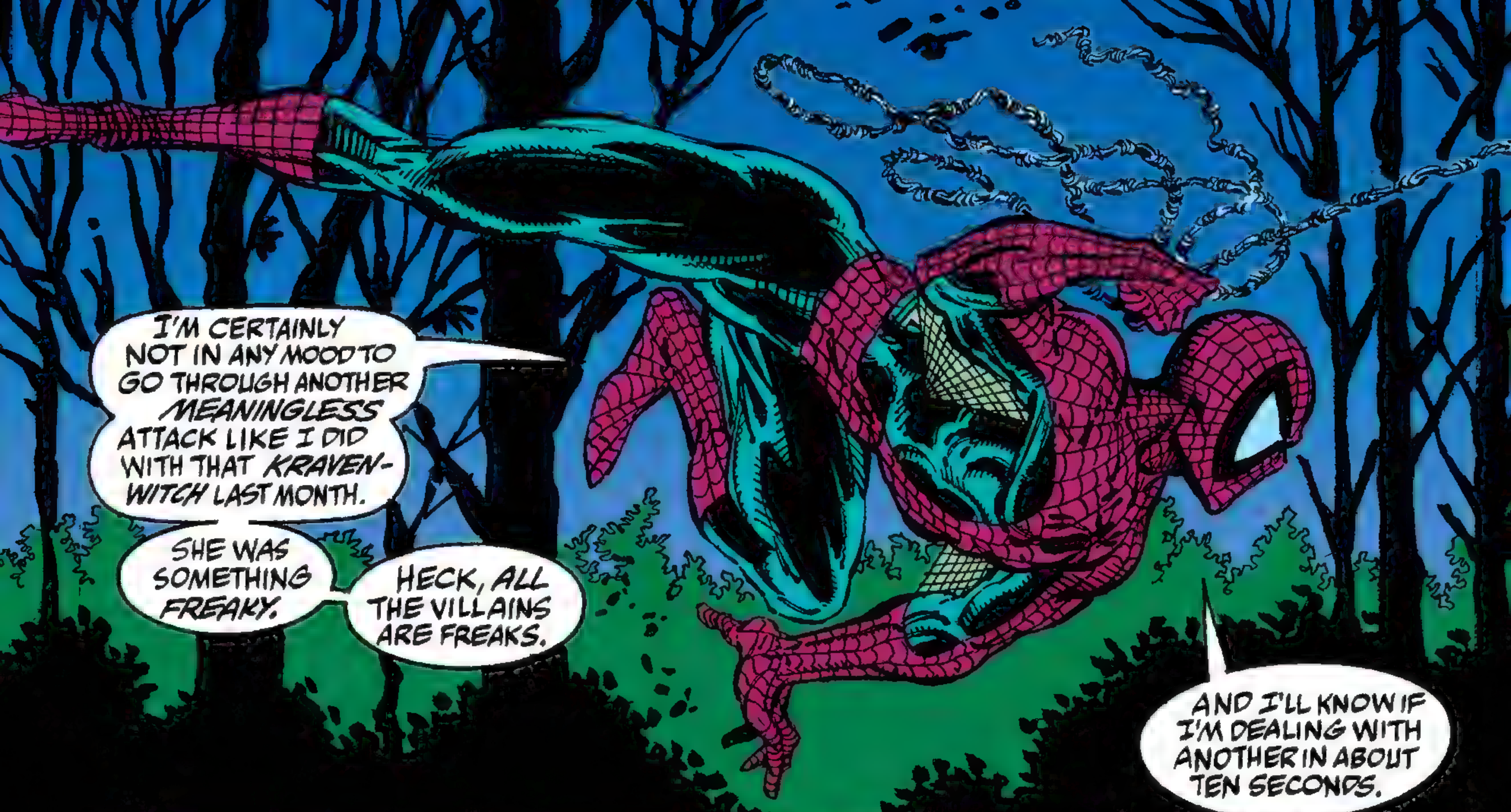
I'LL HAVE TO GO TO
THE POLICE STATION
TOMORROW MORNING
THEN MEET MELVIN TO
SEE WHAT HE FOUND
OUT.

YA KNOW, PETER, YOU
DON'T NEED THESE COMPLI-
CATIONS IN YOUR LIFE. IT'S
HARD ENOUGH TRYING TO
FIGURE OUT THIS "WENDIGO"
MESS WITHOUT WORRYING
ABOUT SOME NIGHT-
PROWLING STRANGER.

ON THE OTHER
HAND, WHAT OTHER
GOOD-LOOKING
SUPER HERO IS
IN TOWN?

SO I'VE GOT
THAT GOING FOR
ME, TOO.






I'M CERTAINLY NOT IN ANY MOOD TO GO THROUGH ANOTHER MEANINGLESS ATTACK LIKE I DID WITH THAT KRAVEN-WITCH LAST MONTH.

SHE WAS SOMETHING FREAKY.

HECK, ALL THE VILLAINS ARE FREAKS.

AND I'LL KNOW IF I'M DEALING WITH ANOTHER IN ABOUT TEN SECONDS.



THE CLEARING IS JUST BELOW.

MIGHT AS WELL MAKE THIS DRAMATIC.

NEVER FEAR!
SPIDEY'S HERE!
IN HIS UNDERWEAR!

A full-page comic book illustration of Wolverine in his classic yellow and blue suit, standing in a dense forest. He is looking down at a character whose back is to the viewer. The character has brown hair and is wearing a blue jacket with a red belt. Wolverine's claws are extended from his right hand. The background is filled with green foliage and tree trunks.

REAL MATURE,
SCHOOLBOY.

WOLVERINE!!

YOU'D BE FACE
DOWN RIGHT NOW IF
I WERE THE BAD GUY.
YOU DIDN'T KNOW IF I
WAS FRIEND OR FOE.
WHY WOULD YOU GIVE
ME AN EDGE?

THE FOOL
WHO SIGNALS AN
ENEMY, ISN'T LONG
FOR THIS WORLD.

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!
THANKS FOR THE
LECTURE, POPS. I'LL
HAVE THE CAR HOME
BY ELEVEN.

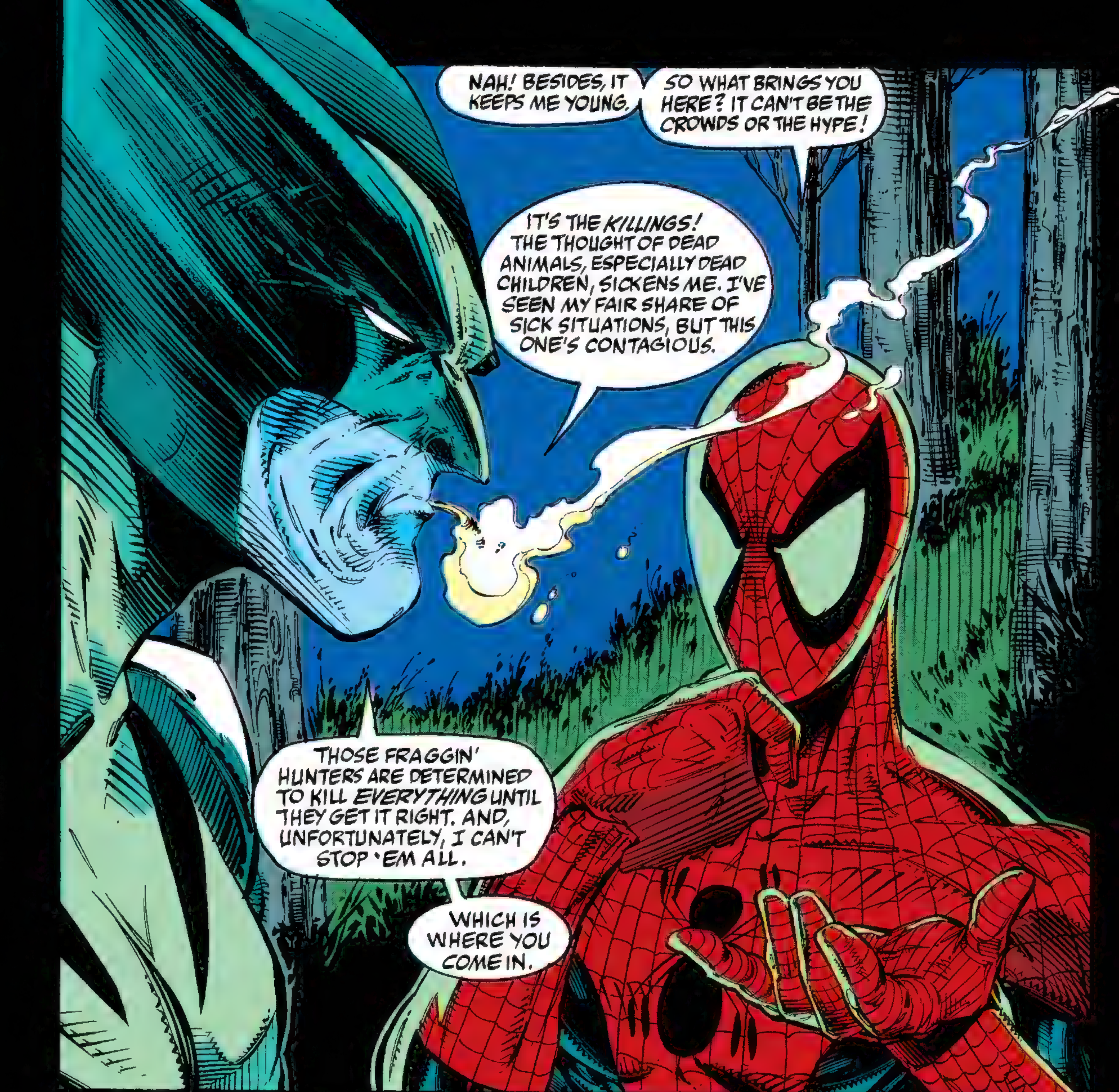
WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM? I'VE
BEEN IN THIS BUSI-
NESS LONGER THAN
YOU. MY SPIDER-
SENSE TOLD ME
YOU WEREN'T
HOSTILE. SO I
THOUGHT I'D
HAVE A LITTLE
FUN.

SPEAKING OF
WHICH, WHY THE
OLD YELLOW AND
BLUE SUIT. YOU GOT
A REUNION TO
ATTEND AFTER?

COUPLE SEAMS CAME LOOSE
ON THE OTHER ONE, SO I WANTED
TO PUT ON SOMETHING THAT RE-
MINDED ME OF A TIME WHEN
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU!

OH! HE MADE A
FUNNY! I THINK
THIS GUY HAS SOME
POTENTIAL.

YOU NEVER
STOP, DO YOU?



NAH! BESIDES, IT
KEEPS ME YOUNG.

SO WHAT BRINGS YOU
HERE? IT CAN'T BE THE
CROWDS OR THE HYPE!

IT'S THE KILLINGS!
THE THOUGHT OF DEAD
ANIMALS, ESPECIALLY DEAD
CHILDREN, SICKENS ME. I'VE
SEEN MY FAIR SHARE OF
SICK SITUATIONS, BUT THIS
ONE'S CONTAGIOUS.

THOSE FRAGGIN'
HUNTERS ARE DETERMINED
TO KILL EVERYTHING UNTIL
THEY GET IT RIGHT. AND,
UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T
STOP 'EM ALL.

WHICH IS
WHERE YOU
COME IN.

GREAT!

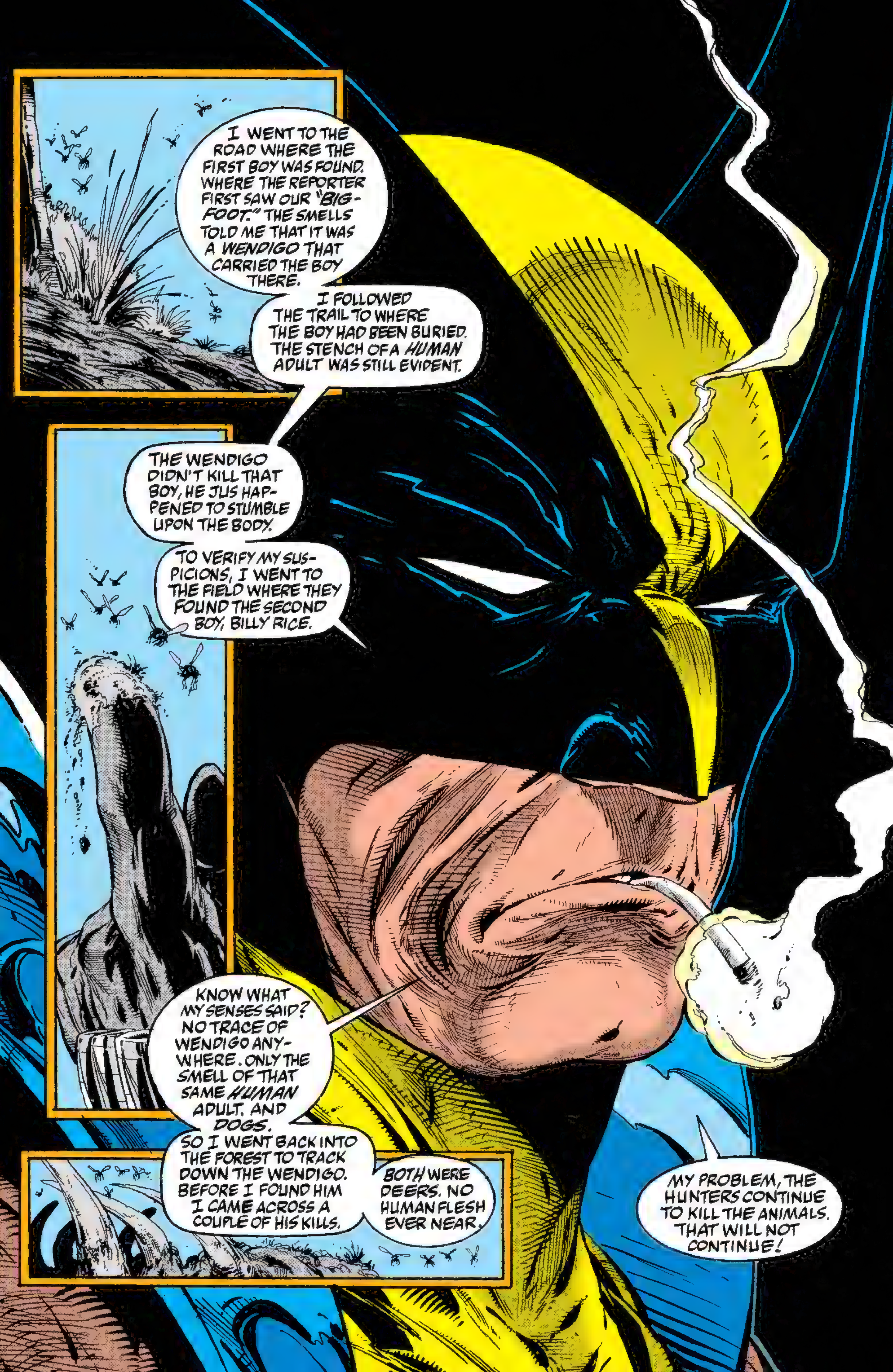
NOW I'M SUPPOSED TO STOP
THE HUNTERS, AND LEST WE
FORGET, THE R.C.M.P., THE EN-
VIRONMENTALISTS, AND THE
REPORTERS.

AH, SHUT UP, KID! I DON'T
WANT YA TO MOW 'EM DOWN.
JUST REMOVE THEIR MOTIVA-
TION. LET THEM KNOW THEIR
TARGET IS IN TOWN. JUST
KEEP 'EM OUT OF THE
FOREST.

FACTS,
BUDDY. I'VE
GOT TO HAVE
SOMETHING
SOLID.

LISTEN, I'VE GOT A
HUNDRED INNOCENT ANIMALS
SLAUGHTERED OUT IN THE FOREST
BY SOME HYPER-ACTIVE WEENIES.
THEY THINK "BIGFOOT" KILLED
THE BOYS.

I SAY HE
DIDN'T.



I WENT TO THE ROAD WHERE THE FIRST BOY WAS FOUND. WHERE THE REPORTER FIRST SAW OUR "BIG-FOOT." THE SMELLS TOLD ME THAT IT WAS A WENDIGO THAT CARRIED THE BOY THERE.

I FOLLOWED THE TRAIL TO WHERE THE BOY HAD BEEN BURIED. THE STENCH OF A HUMAN ADULT WAS STILL EVIDENT.

THE WENDIGO DIDN'T KILL THAT BOY, HE JUS HAPPENED TO STUMBLE UPON THE BODY.


TO VERIFY MY SUSPICIONS, I WENT TO THE FIELD WHERE THEY FOUND THE SECOND BOY, BILLY RICE.

KNOW WHAT MY SENSES SAID? NO TRACE OF WENDIGO ANYWHERE. ONLY THE SMELL OF THAT SAME HUMAN ADULT, AND DOGS.

SO I WENT BACK INTO THE FOREST TO TRACK DOWN THE WENDIGO. BEFORE I FOUND HIM I CAME ACROSS A COUPLE OF HIS KILLS.

BOTH WERE DEERS. NO HUMAN FLESH EVER NEAR.

MY PROBLEM, THE HUNTERS CONTINUE TO KILL THE ANIMALS. THAT WILL NOT CONTINUE!



LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT.
YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT THOSE
TWO DEAD BOYS HAVE *NOTHING*
TO DO WITH WENDIGO.

≡ Whew ≡
THAT IS A
PROBLEM.

WE'VE GOT AN
ENTIRE TOWN BELIEVING
THAT A SEVEN-FOOT
MONSTER IS GOING TO
SNATCH THEIR KIDS AND
DRAG 'EM INTO THE
DARK.

AND WITH THE
MEDIA BLOWING
THIS THING WAY OUT
OF PROPORTION, I
CAN HARDLY
BLAME THEM.



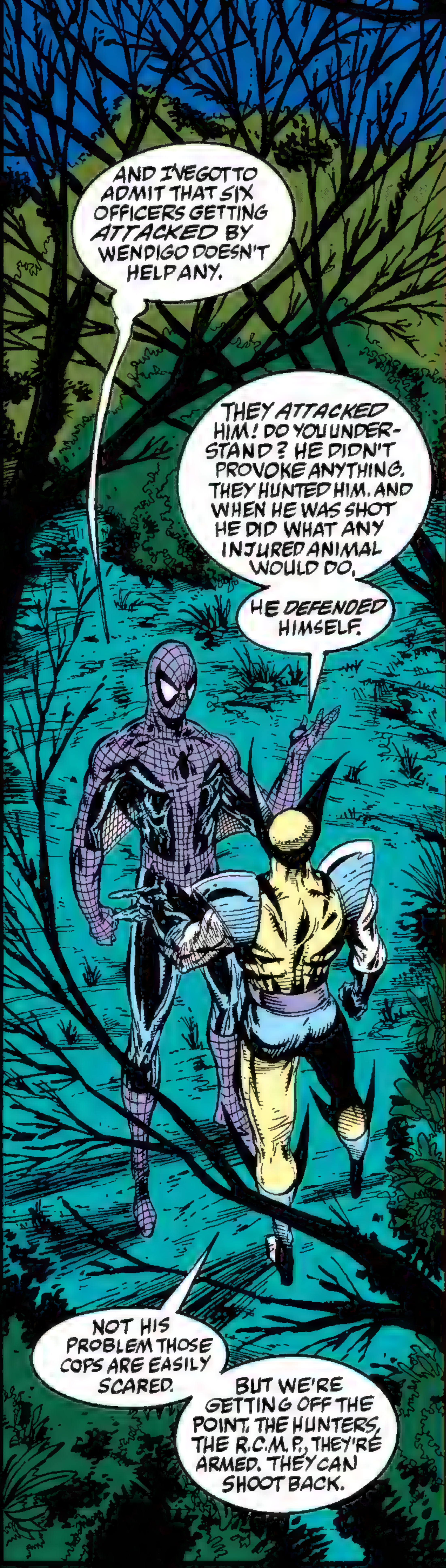
I'LL TELL YOU,
WOLVIE, FROM MY
MEDIA EXPERIENCE,
ONCE THE WHEELS OF
PROPAGANDA HAVE
BEEN SET IN MOTION--

--REALITY BECOMES
A MOOT POINT.

PLUS, ANNA
BROOKS, THE REPORTER
WHO CRACKED THIS
STORY, TELLS ME THAT
SOMEONE IS *LEAKING*
OUT INFORMATION THAT
JUST ADDS FUEL TO THE
FIRE.



THESE PEOPLE WANT A
BIGFOOT. THEY'LL GET A
BIGFOOT. IT'S THE ONLY WAY
THEY'LL FEEL SAFE AGAIN.




AND I'VE GOT TO ADMIT THAT SIX OFFICERS GETTING ATTACKED BY WENDIGO DOESN'T HELP ANY.

THEY ATTACKED HIM! DO YOU UNDERSTAND? HE DIDN'T PROVOKE ANYTHING. THEY HUNTED HIM. AND WHEN HE WAS SHOT HE DID WHAT ANY INJURED ANIMAL WOULD DO.

HE DEFENDED HIMSELF.

NOT HIS PROBLEM THOSE COPS ARE EASILY SCARED.

BUT WE'RE GETTING OFF THE POINT. THE HUNTERS, THE R.C.M.P., THEY'RE ARMED. THEY CAN SHOOT BACK.



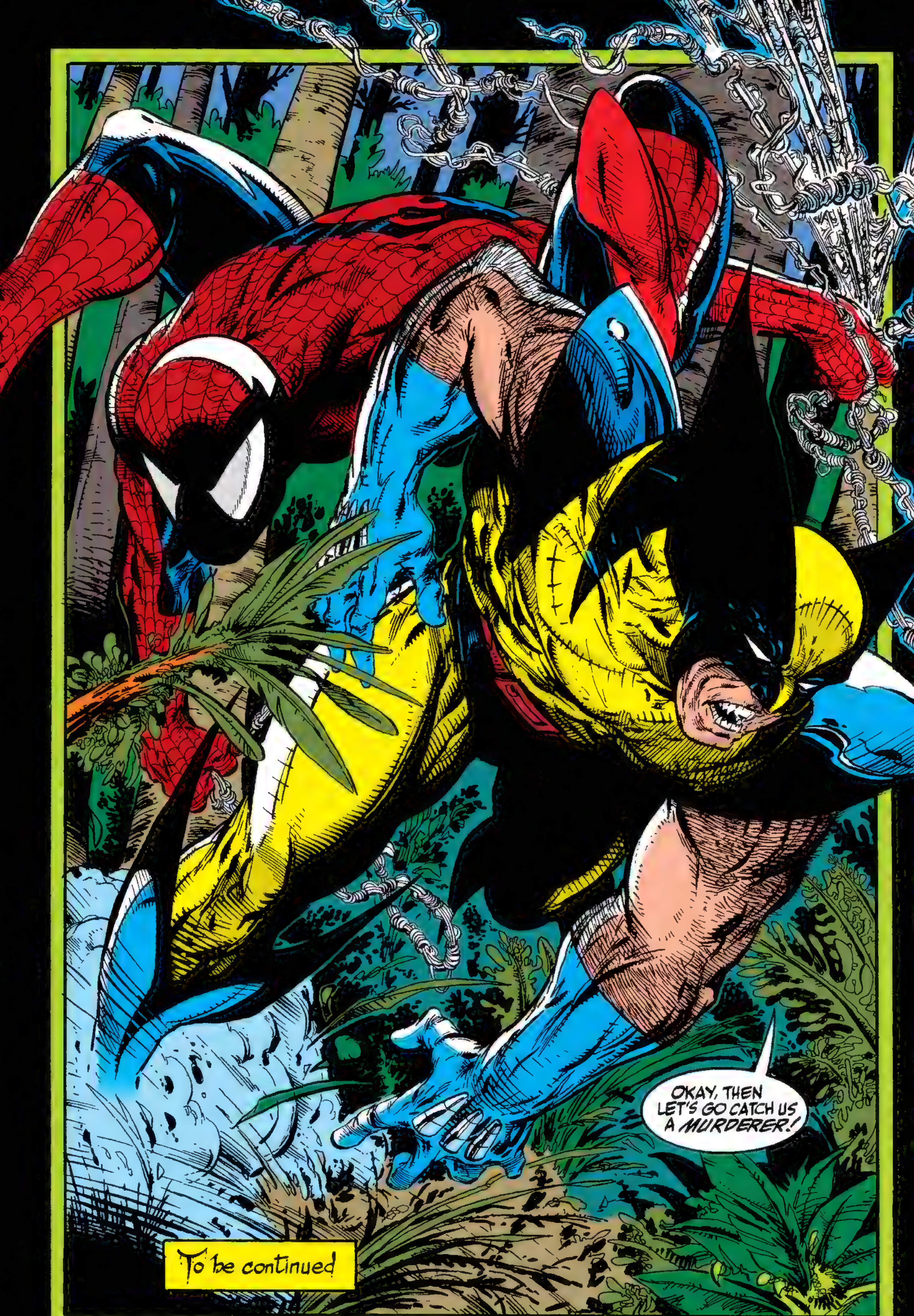
IT'S THE INNOCENT ANIMALS THAT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT.

AND THE KIDS THAT YOU SHOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT.



TIME TO MAKE A CHOICE.

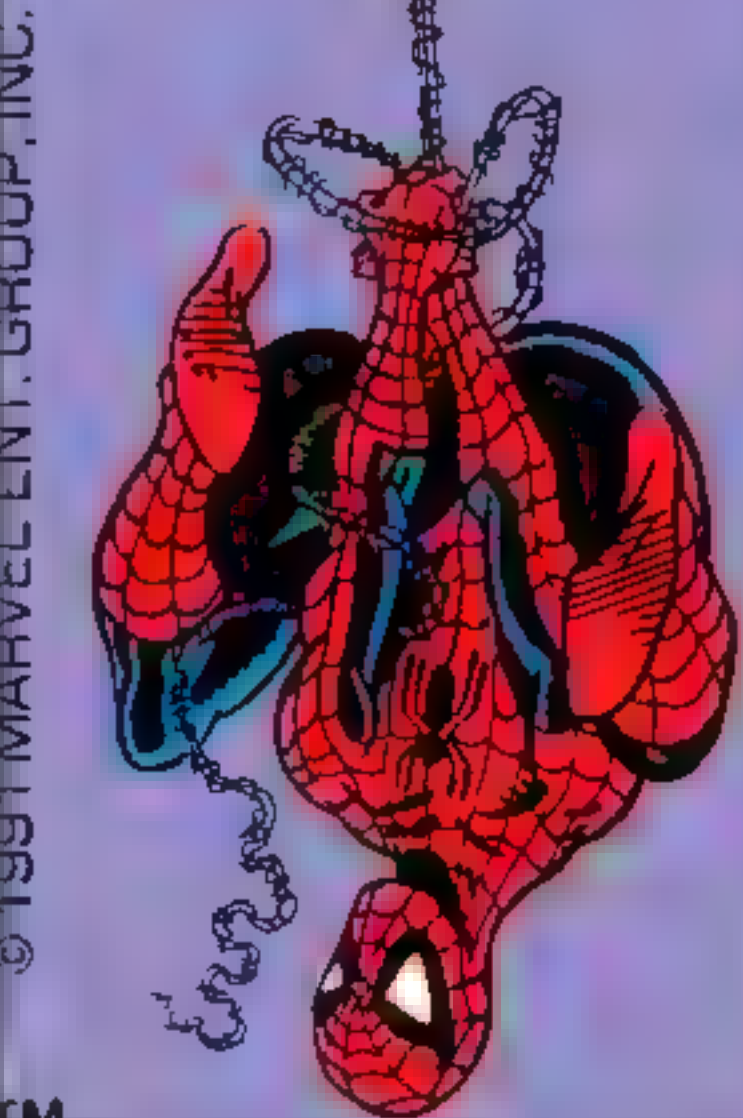
BUT I'M IN LIKE FLYNN.



OKAY, THEN
LET'S GO CATCH US
A MURDERER!

To be continued

MARVEL
COMICS



\$1.75 US
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11
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COMICS
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"PERCEPTIONS" PART 4 OF 5

SPIDER-MAN

WHILE
WOLVERINE
OPERATES ON
WENDIGO

— SPIDEY TAKES ON THE
PRESS AND THE LAW!





Day ten.

It finally happened. Someone else has seen Wendigo. As a matter of fact, six people saw it.

There were officers in the bush. Hunting down this savage baby-killer, when the monster attacked them. Two are in the hospital with injuries; the others are shaken emotionally.

I understand their fear. To face something eye to eye that you don't believe exists is disturbing. It blows all of your previous assessments of life to smithereens.

If a creature like this can roam the forest undetected for who knows how many years--then what else could exist?

DEATH STATION

What other horrors could be lurking just outside our windows without us ever knowing?

The blood, fur and flesh wedged into the grill of my now-crushed car said it was.

But now we do know. From my selfish perspective that's good. Ever since that first night when I ran into the Wendigo with my car, I've wondered if it was actually real.

So, even though the attack upon the R.C.M.P. is a horrible reality, their sighting now makes me feel like I'm not totally alone.

The weight off my conscience will now allow me to sleep, with some sort of peace, for the first time in ten days.

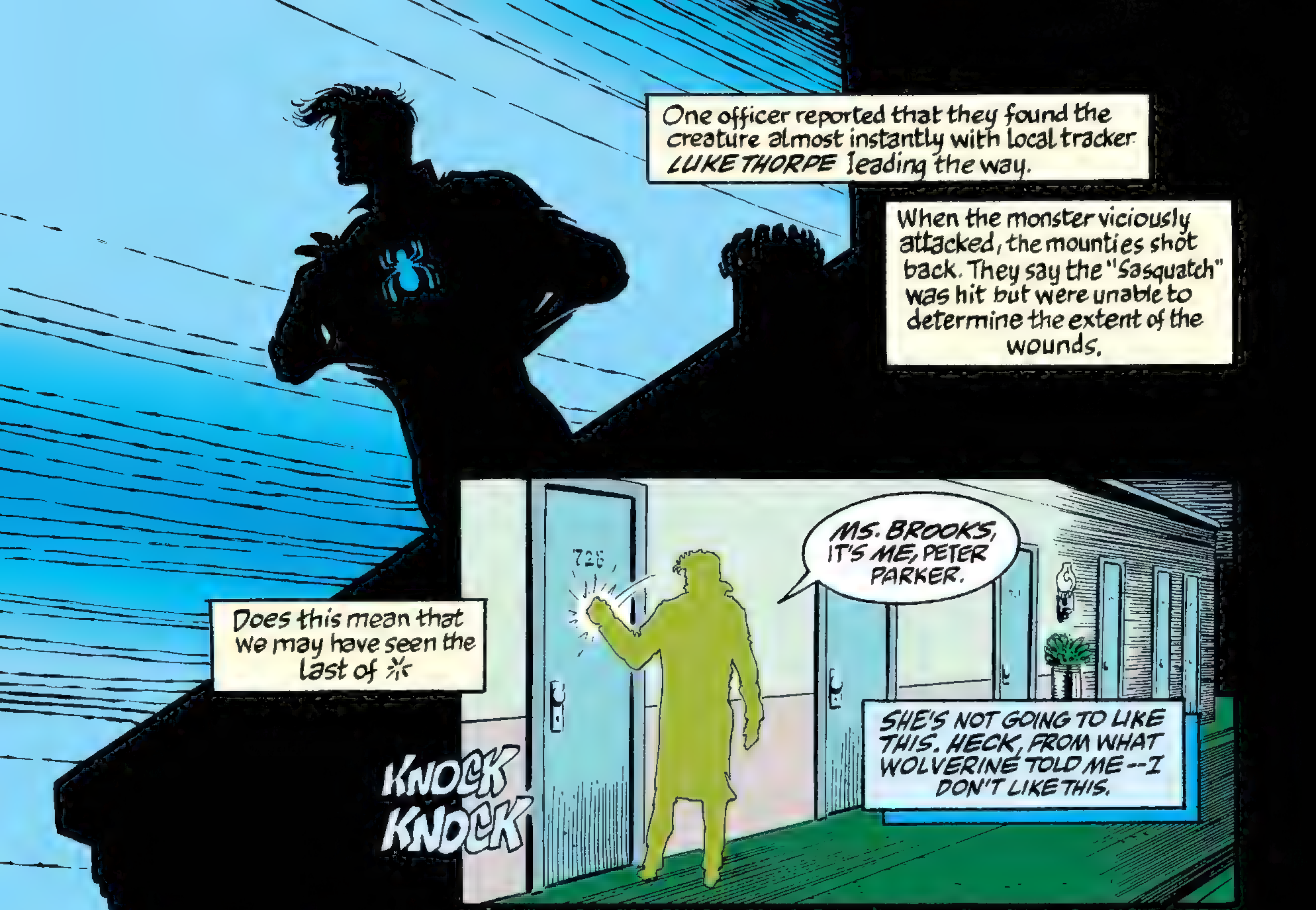
As for the R.C.M.P. officers, luckily they were armed. Maybe that's why the creature chose the children.

They were innocent. Harmless.

Easy prey.

GOOD! SHE'S IN HER ROOM.

STORY & PENCILS TODD MCFARLANE	INKS RICK MAGYAR & MCFARLANE	LETTERS RICK PARKER	EDITOR JIM SALICRUP
		COLOR GREG WRIGHT	EDITOR IN CHIEF TOM DEFALCO



One officer reported that they found the creature almost instantly with local tracker **LUKE THORPE** leading the way.

When the monster viciously attacked, the mounties shot back. They say the "Sasquatch" was hit but were unable to determine the extent of the wounds.

Does this mean that we may have seen the last of *

**KNOCK
KNOCK**

MS. BROOKS,
IT'S ME, PETER
PARKER.

SHE'S NOT GOING TO LIKE
THIS. HECK, FROM WHAT
WOLVERINE TOLD ME--I
DON'T LIKE THIS.


PETER!
COME ON IN.
AND PLEASE
CALL ME
ANNA.

I WAS JUST WRITING
MY COLUMN FOR TOMORROW.
I'M SURE YOU HEARD ABOUT
THE ATTACK. SO WHAT DO
YOU THINK?

THAT'S WHY I'M
HERE, ANNA. I'VE
BEEN GIVEN SOME IN-
FORMATION THAT
STRONGLY SUGGESTS
THAT SOMEONE IN
TOWN KILLED
THOSE TWO BOYS.


NOT THE
WENDIGO.

WHAT?!
THAT'S
ABSURD!




I WISH IT WERE.
BUT THE INFO I'VE GOTTEN
FROM MY SOURCE SAYS THIS
WHOLE 'BIGFOOT' THING
HAS BEEN A SHAM.

YES, THE WENDIGO EXISTS.
BUT IT ONLY HAPPENED UPON THE
NEUSEL BOY. FOR WHATEVER
REASON, IT WAS BRINGING HIM
CLOSER TO TOWN WHEN YOU
RAN INTO IT.



BUT THAT'S NOT WHY
I'M HERE. WE'VE GOT A
MADMAN RUNNING
AROUND WHO'S A POS-
SIBLE CHILD KILLER
AND NO ONE KNOWS.

WE HAVE TO
LET THE PEOPLE
IN ON THIS.



THIS IS CRAZY! YOU COME STORMING
IN HERE TO TELL ME THAT THE WENDIGO
WHO WAS CRATING AROUND A POOR
DEAD CHILD AND WHO ATTACKED
THE MOUNTIES IS INNOCENT?

GIVE
ME A
BREAK!

I'VE BEEN BUST-
ING MY BUTT ON THIS
STORY, COVERING
EVERY ANGLE. SO FAR
NOTHING POINTS TO
HUMANS.

I DON'T KNOW
WHY YOU'D DO THIS,
PETER, BUT I
EXPECTED BETTER
FROM YOU. I
THOUGHT YOU WERE
DIFFERENT THAN
THE OTHER 'SHARK'
REPORTERS!
WHAT WOULD
POSSESS YOU TO
DO THIS?

BECAUSE IT'S THE
TRUTH!

LISTEN, ANNA, I HATE THIS AS MUCH AS YOU DO. BECAUSE THE SICK THING IS, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SENT HERE IF THIS WAS ONLY A MURDER.

ROUTINE MURDERS DON'T SELL PAPERS.

I'M NOT HERE TO WRECK YOUR STORY. AT THIS POINT I WISH IT WERE TRUE, BUT THE EVIDENCE I HAVE SAYS OTHERWISE.

YOU CAN'T SAY?!

THAT DOES IT! YOU TAKE YOUR SO-CALLED FACTS AND YOU SHOVE 'EM. I'M WRITING THE STORY OF MY LIFE AND I DON'T HAVE TIME TO DEAL WITH PROFESSIONAL JEALOUSY!

NOW GET OUT OF HERE!

BEFORE I GO, YOU ASK YOURSELF A FEW QUESTIONS, SINCE YOU SEEM TO HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS--

--WHY DID ONE BOY HAVE ON CLOTHING AND THE OTHER DIDN'T? WENDIGO WOULDN'T CHANGE HIS HABITS.

AND WHY HAVE THE FORENSIC REPORTS BEEN DELAYED? EXCEPT FOR A FEW FACTS THAT WERE LEAKED TO HELP FUEL THE FIRES OF CONFUSION.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED I'VE GOT PLENTY MORE UNANSWERED QUESTIONS.

YOU KNOW WHERE YOU CAN REACH ME.

SLAM

WHAT EVIDENCE!? SHOW ME. AND JUST WHO IS YOUR SOURCE?

I CAN'T SAY RIGHT NOW.

I'M SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY. NOW IT'S ME WHO WOULD HAVE EXPECTED BETTER.

SOMEWHERE IN
THE DEEP FOREST
AN INNOCENT
VICTIM STRUGGLES
TO MAINTAIN
CONSCIOUSNESS.

IT FEELS A BURNING
PAIN DEEP IN ITS
BELLY, ALTHOUGH
IT CAN'T RATIONALIZE
WHY ITS THERE.

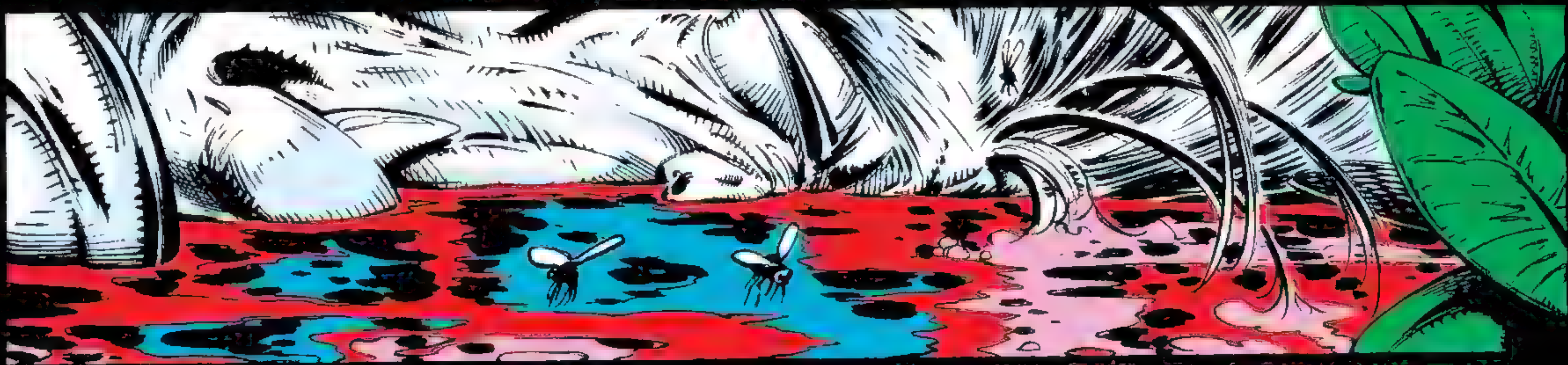
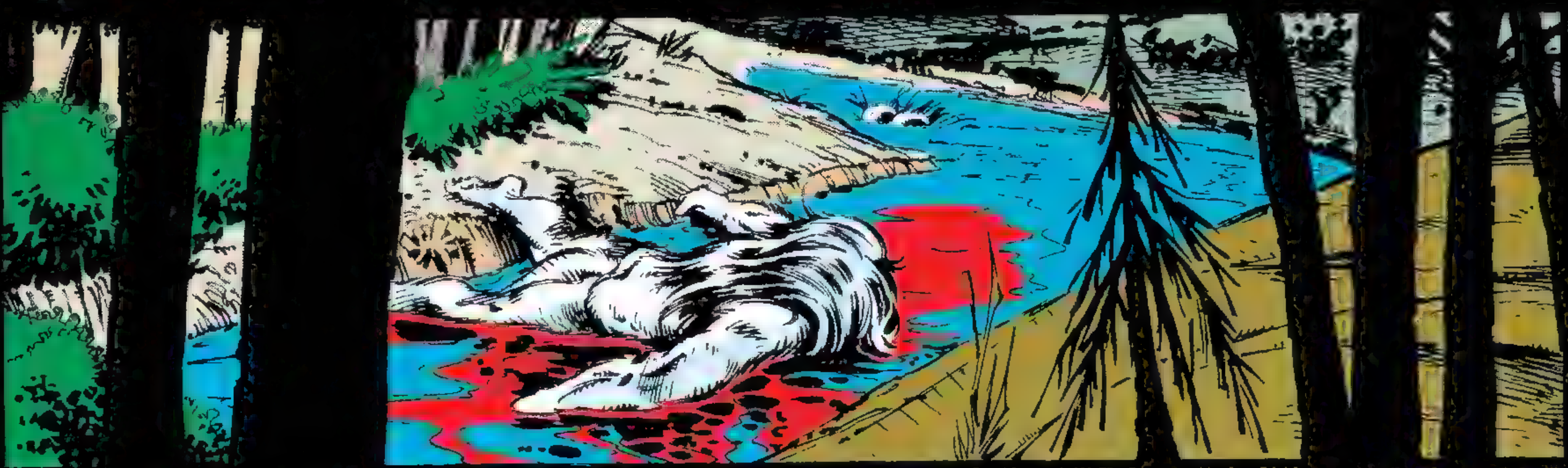
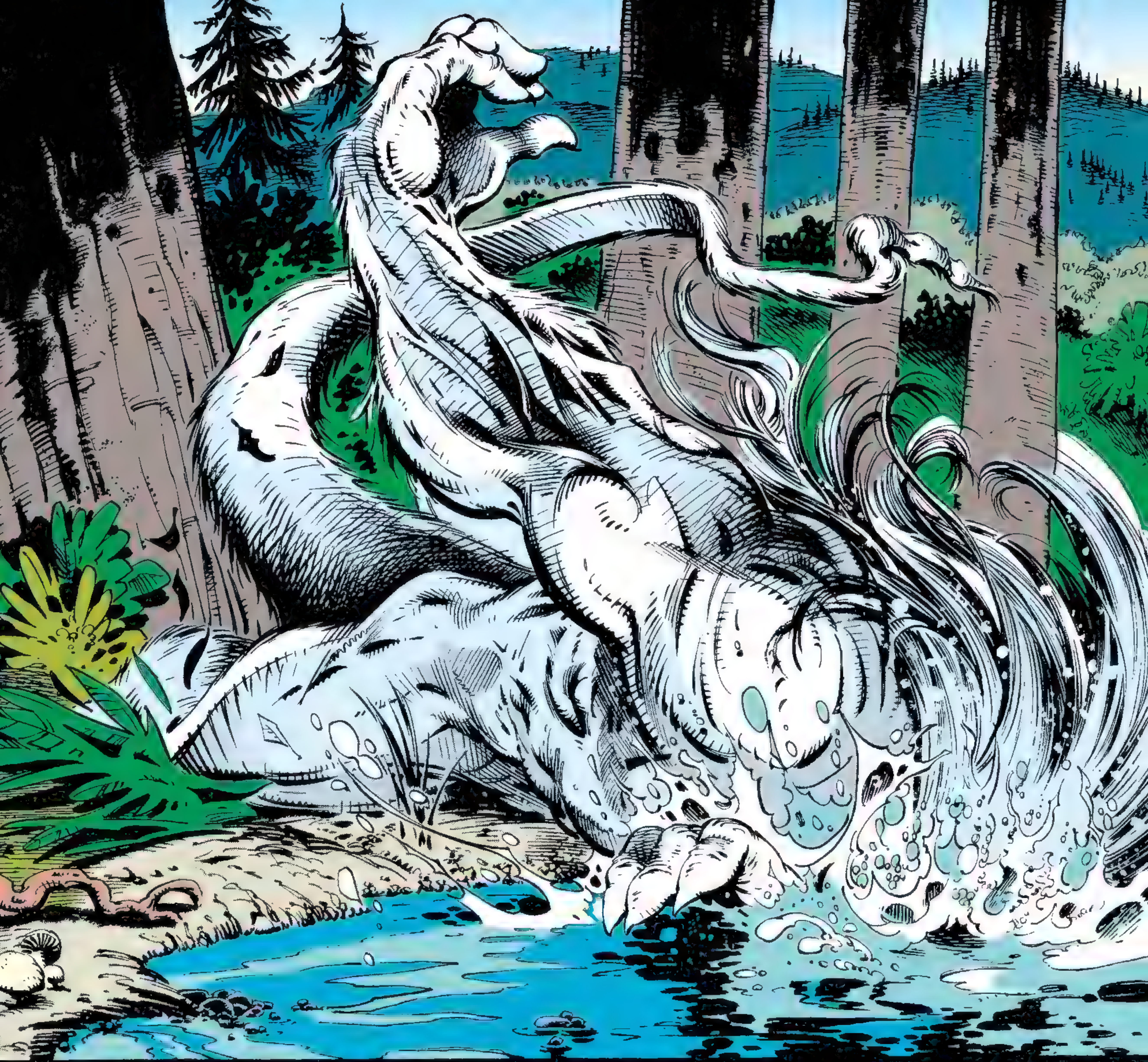
THE WORD BULLETS
HAS NO MEANING.


IT DOESN'T FEEL
RIGHT, THAT MUCH
IT DOES KNOW. SO,
INSTINCTIVELY, THE
WENDIGO DOES
WHAT IT CAN TO
HELP ITSELF.

THE FIGHT WITH THE
R.C.M.P. AND WOLVERINE
HAVE TAKEN THEIR
TOLL.

ESPECIALLY
WITH GUNSHOT
WOUNDS TO
EVEN THE
ODDS.


THE CREATURE
CARES ABOUT
NONE OF
THIS.



A comic book illustration of Wolverine in his yellow and black X-Men uniform. He is standing in a swampy, wooded area, looking down at a body lying face down in the water. The body is partially obscured by reeds and has a pool of red liquid, likely blood, around it. Wolverine's right hand is clenched into a fist. The background shows tall, thin trees and a blue sky. Two speech bubbles are present in the upper left.

SOMEONE'S
GONNA PAY
DEARLY.

SPIDEY'D
BETTER BE
DOING HIS JOB,
'CAUSE I'M
GETTING TIRED
OF WAITING.

A large, detailed illustration of Spider-Man hanging upside down from a brick ledge. He is wearing his iconic red and blue suit with white web patterns. His face is shown in profile, looking down with a determined expression. The background shows a city street with buildings, a crowd of people, and a car. The scene is set during the day with a clear blue sky.

TIME'S RUNNING OUT. I THOUGHT ANNA COULD HELP ME WITH THE OTHER REPORTERS.

LOOKS LIKE I'M ON MY OWN. CAN'T RISK EXPOSING MYSELF RIGHT NOW 'CAUSE THAT WOULD JUST COMPLICATE MATTERS.

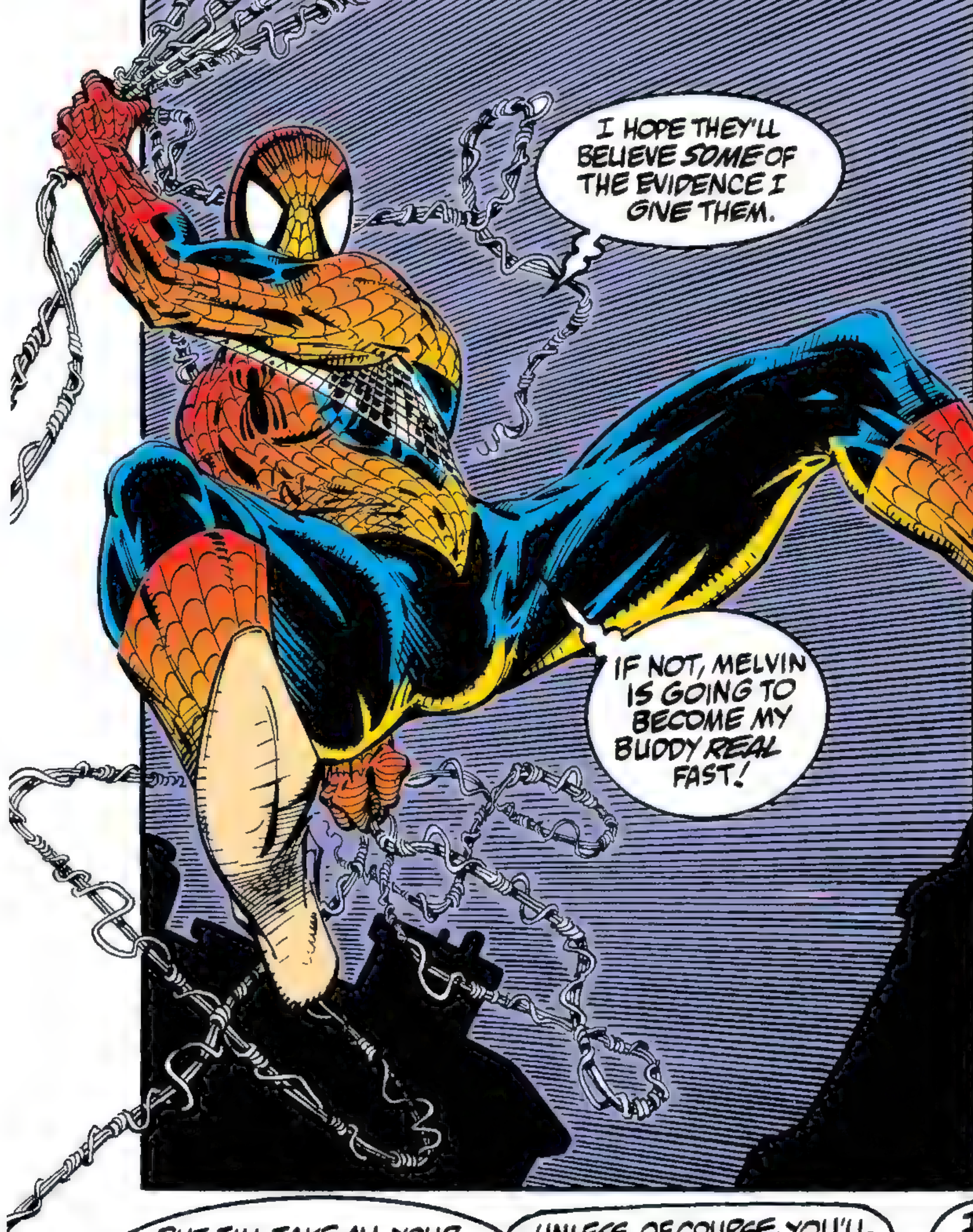
5000---

GUESS THE HYPE HAS SWALLOWED HER UP, TOO.

BECAUSE, DEAR SPIDEY, YOU'VE BEEN DOWN THIS PATH TOO MANY TIMES.

-- THE R.C.M.P. IS MY NEXT BET. BUT WHY DO I KNOW THAT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO WELCOME THE NEWS?

OR THE RAMIFICATIONS?



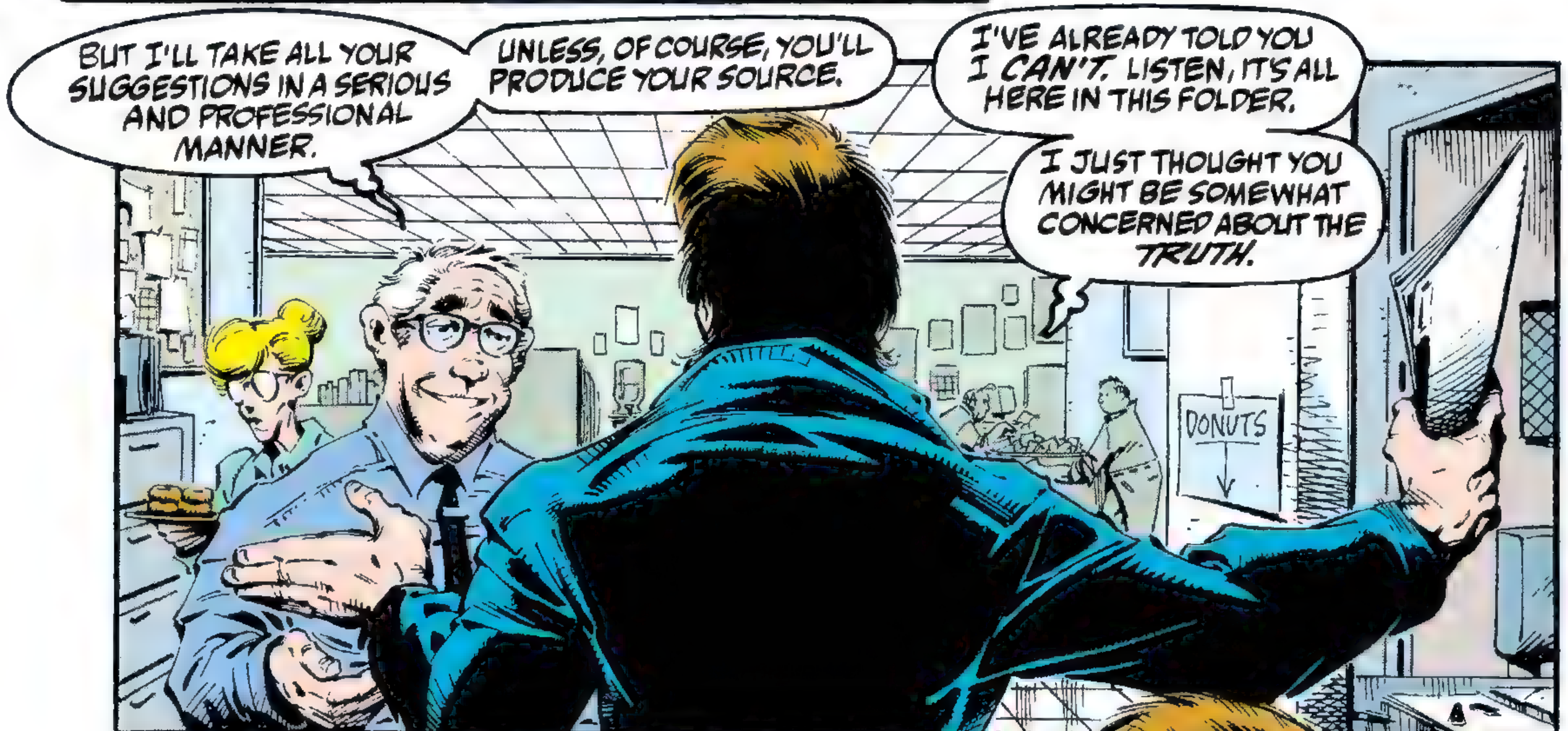
I HOPE THEY'LL BELIEVE *SOME* OF THE EVIDENCE I GIVE THEM.

IF NOT, MELVIN IS GOING TO BECOME MY BUDDY *REAL* FAST!



YA KNOW, I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOU GUYS. IF YOU CAN'T GET YOUR STORY THE PROPER WAY--

--YOU JUST *MAKE UP* YOUR OWN ANSWERS.



BUT I'LL TAKE ALL YOUR SUGGESTIONS IN A SERIOUS AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER.

UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU'LL PRODUCE YOUR SOURCE.

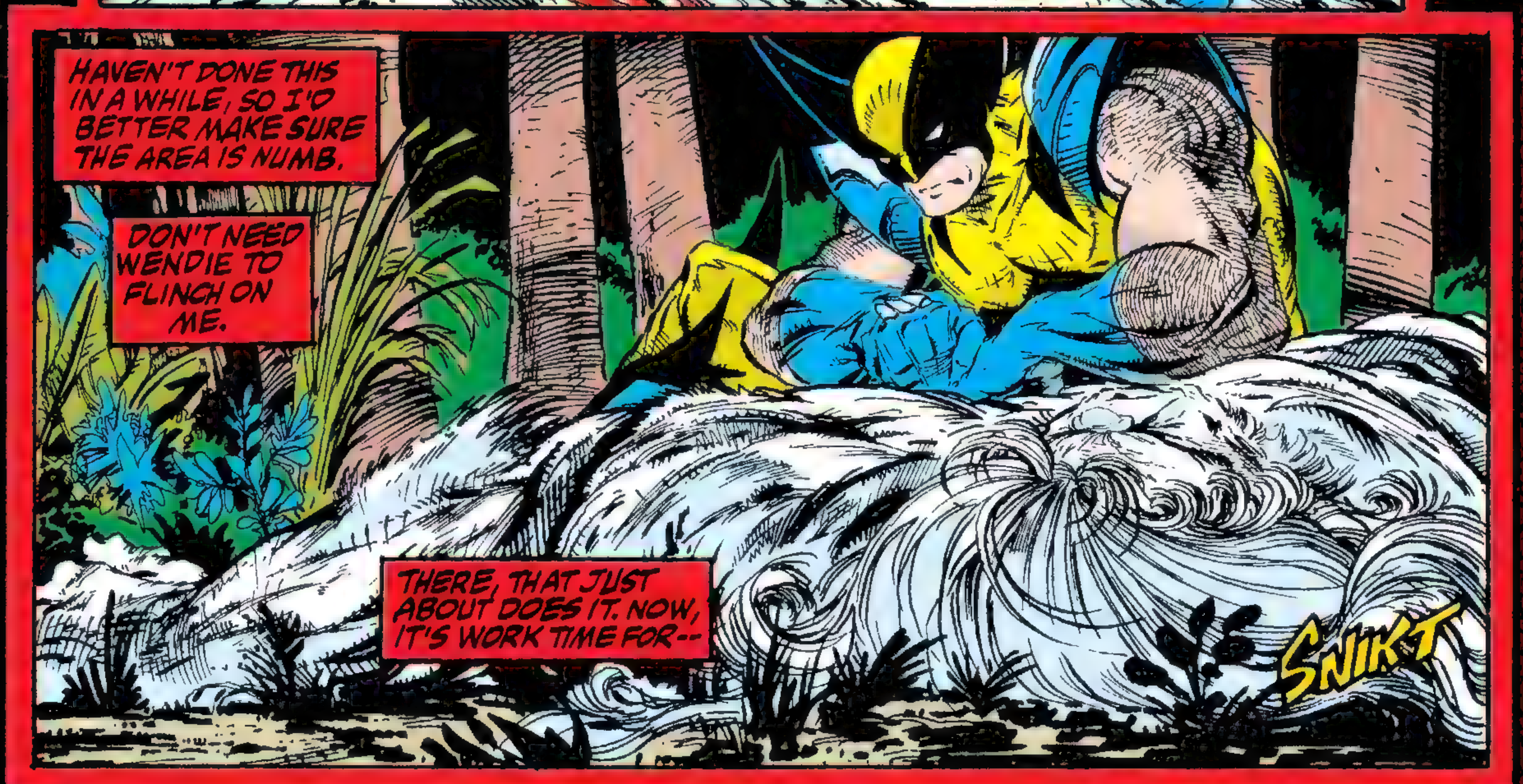
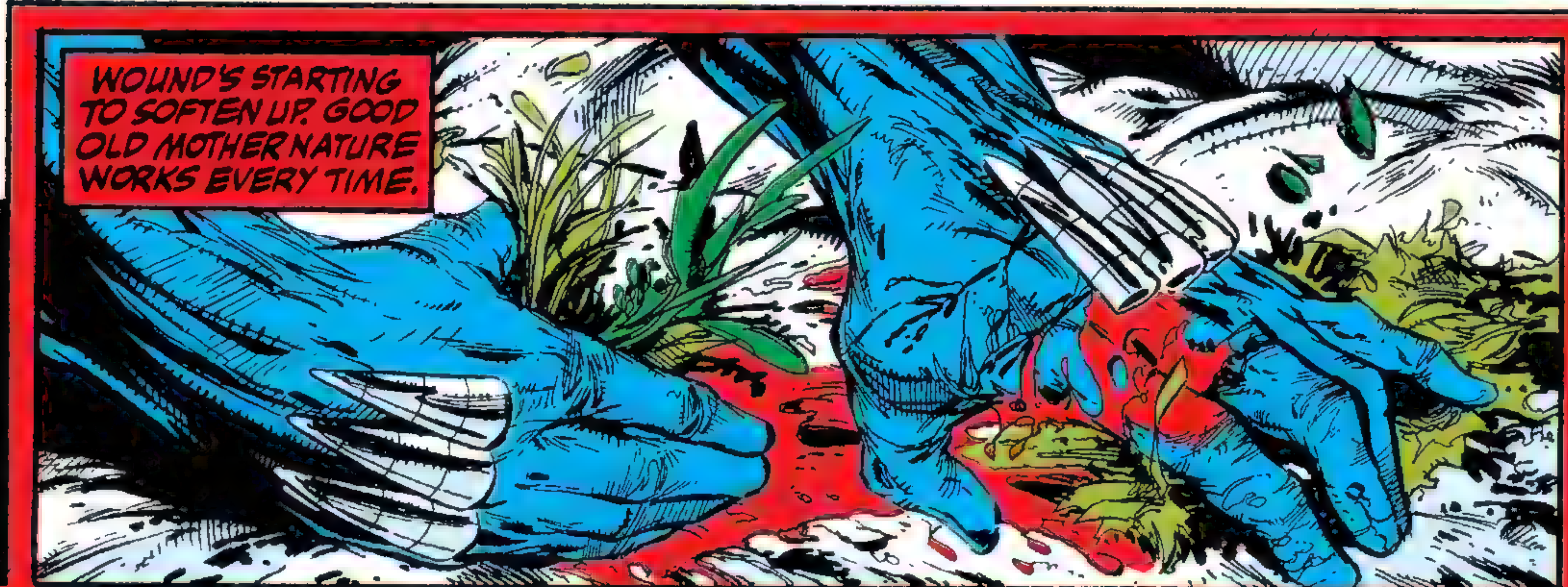
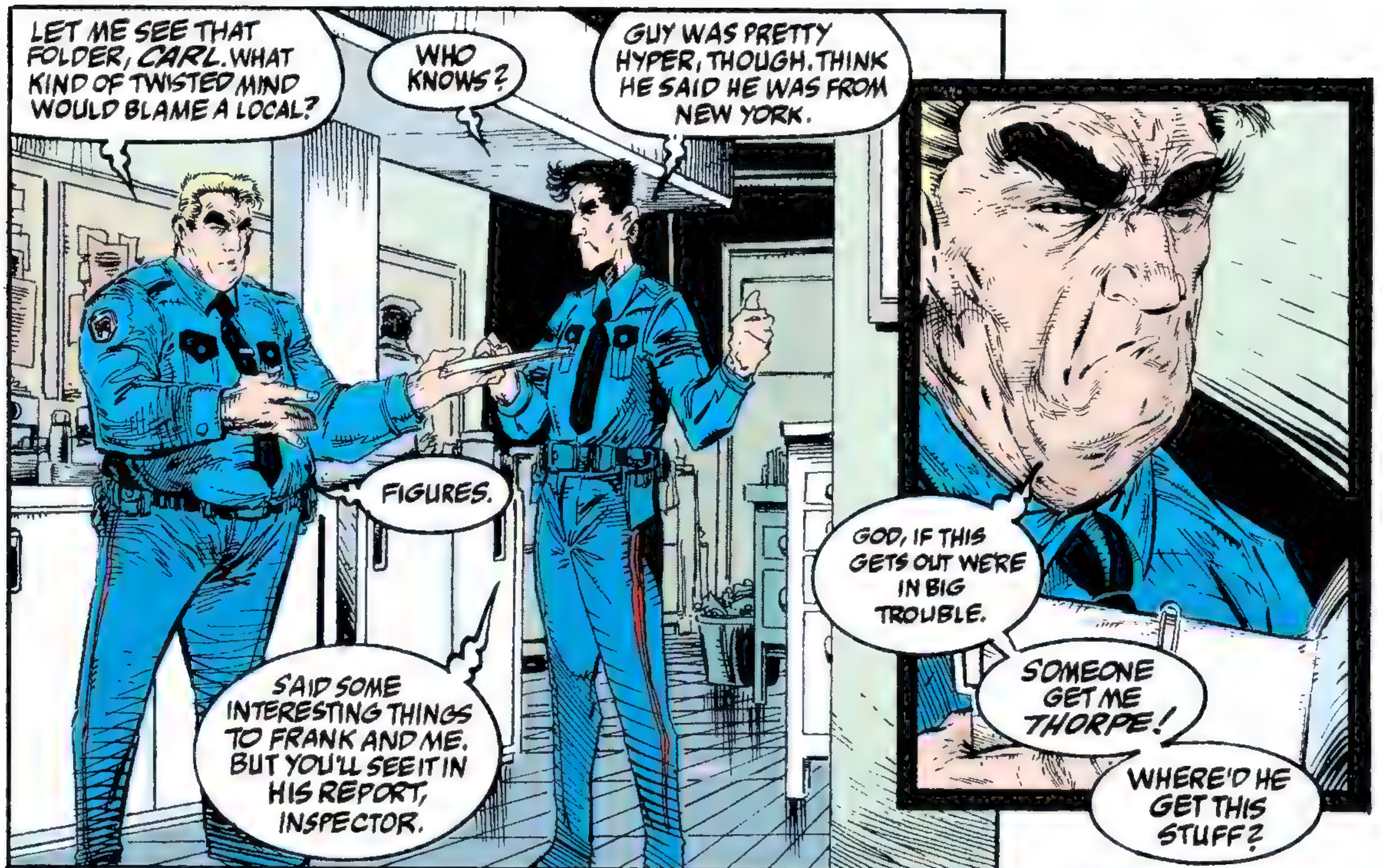
I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU I *CAN'T*. LISTEN, IT'S ALL HERE IN THIS FOLDER.

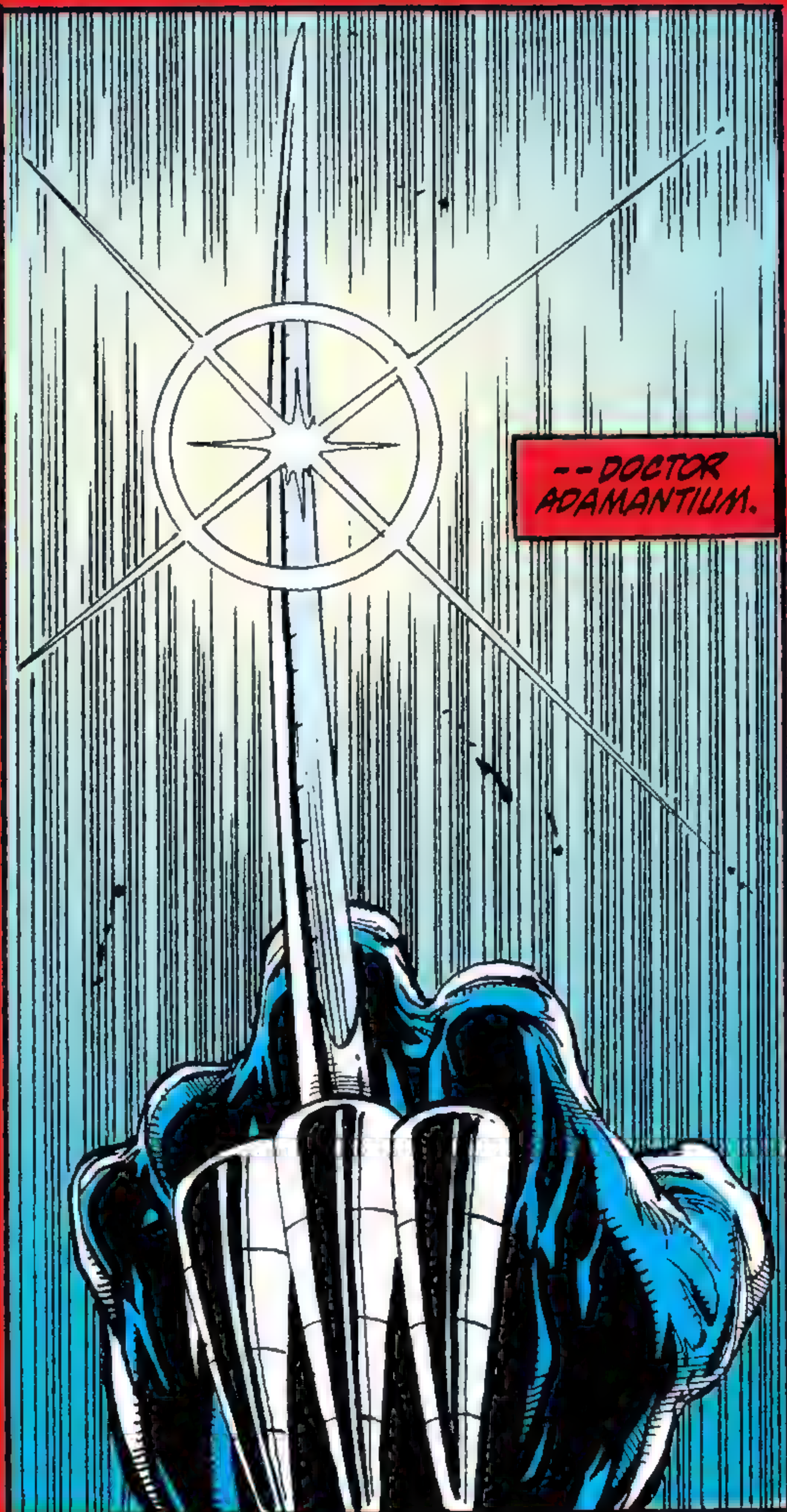
I JUST THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED ABOUT THE *TRUTH*.

WE'LL HANDLE THIS.

SURE. THANKS FOR NOTHING.



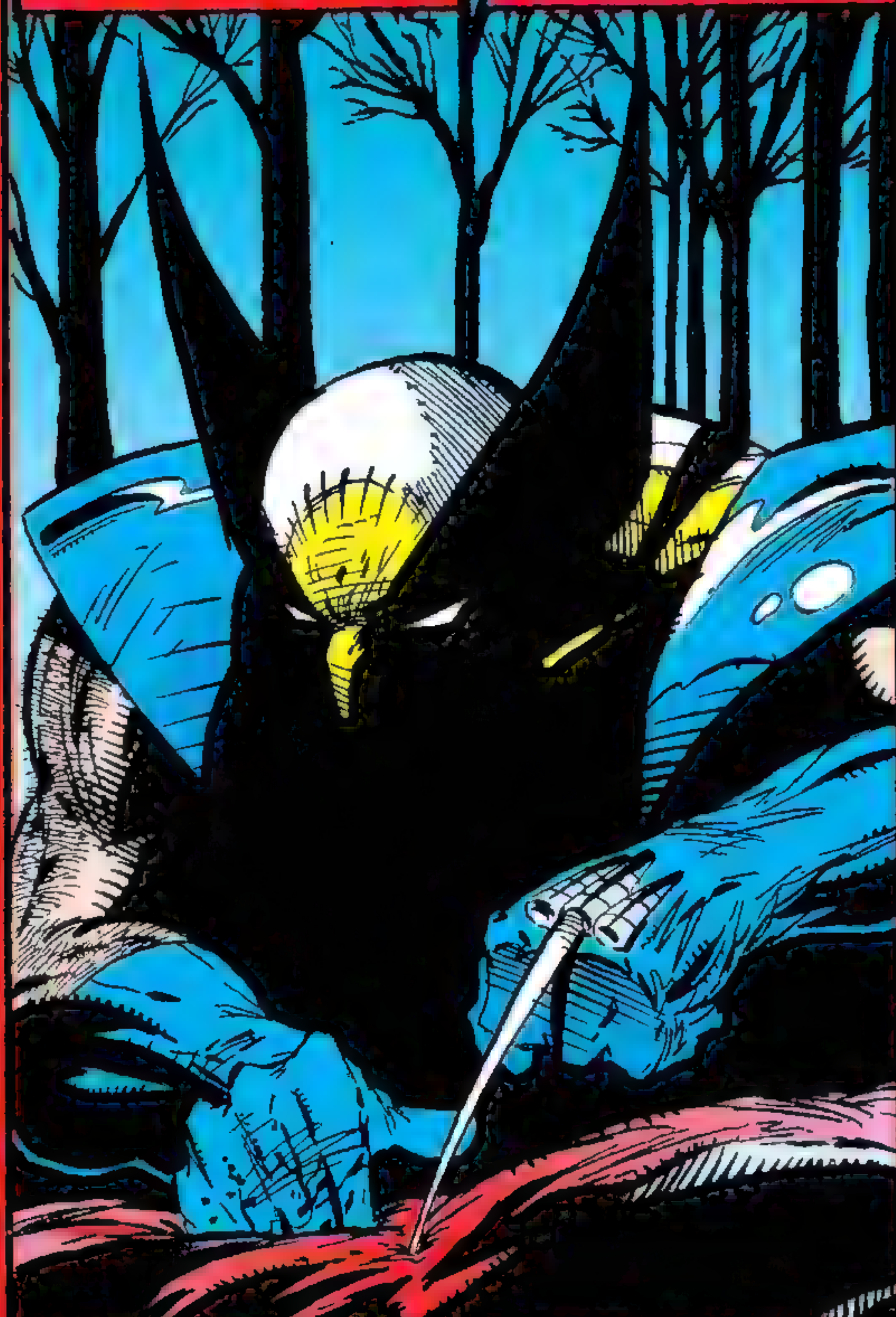




-- DOCTOR
ADAMANTIUM.

FUNNY, I DON'T GET
TO USE THESE CLAWS
FOR POSITIVE REASONS
THAT OFTEN.

NICE TO KNOW THAT
MY VEG-O-MATICS
CAN DO MORE THAN
SLICE AND DICE.



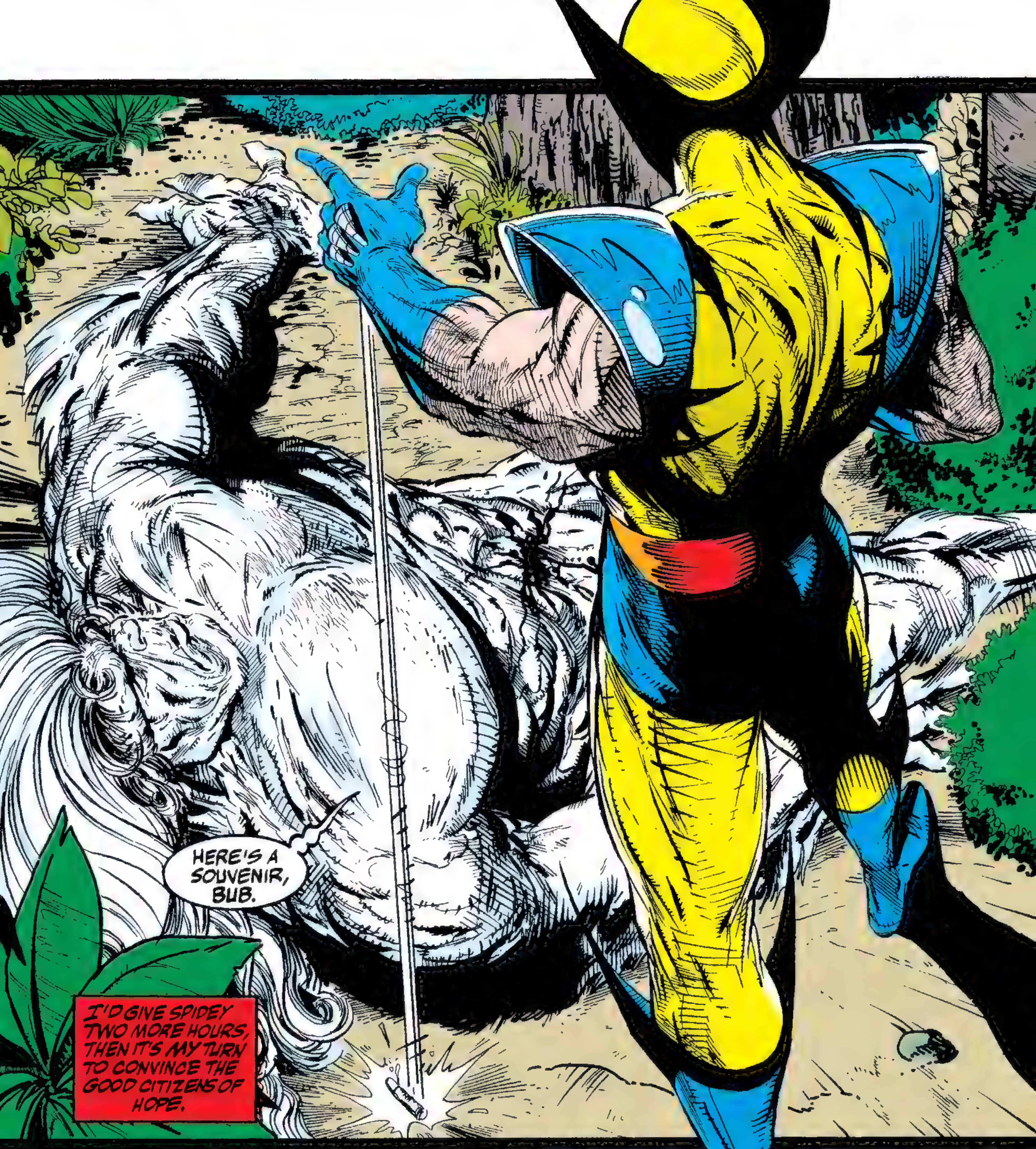
THOUGH THERE'S
SOMETHING TO BE
SAID FOR THAT, TOO.

NOW IF I CAN
JUST STOP THIS
BLEEDING AND--

GOT
IT!

IF THE WOUND'S NOT INFECTED AND
WENDIE DOESN'T STRAIN HIMSELF, I
THINK THE OPERATION WILL BE A
SUCCESS.





HERE'S A
SOUVENIR,
BUB.

I'D GIVE SPIDEY
TWO MORE HOURS,
THEN IT'S MY TURN
TO CONVINCE THE
GOOD CITIZENS OF
HOPE.

IF HE DOESN'T COME BRINGING
GOOD NEWS, THEN I'LL GO INTO
TOWN AND SNIFF DOWN THE
BLOODY PIG MYSELF.

NO ONE'S GONNA DIE
WHILE I'M HERE.

A LIVING CANCER
IS WALKING
AROUND KILLING.
IT'S MY JOB TO
MAKE HIM
TERMINAL.

YOU CAN'T
BE SERIOUS!
C'MON, PETER!
YOU'RE JUST A
PHOTOGRAPHER.
HOW'D YOU GET
THAT KIND OF
INFORMATION?

IT DOESN'T
MATTER.

ARE YOU KIDDING?
EVERYONE'S ON THE
PATH TO THE LEFT,
BUT YOU SAY THE
ANSWERS ARE ON
THE RIGHT. YOU'D
BETTER BELIEVE
IT MATTERS!

MEL, I WASTED AN
HOUR JUST TRACKING
YOU DOWN. TIME IS
CRUCIAL. YOU'LL GET
ALL YOUR ANSWERS
LATER. THE COPS ARE
USELESS RIGHT NOW
SO WE'VE GOT TO
DO THIS ON OUR
OWN.

C'MON, EVEN IF
THIS WAS TRUE, WE
CAN'T STOP THE
WHEELS OF PARANOIA.
WE'RE IN THIS, WHETH-
ER WE LIKE IT
OR NOT.

WRONG!

YOU'RE
IN THIS. I'M
JUST A
PHOTOGRAPHER,
REMEMBER?
I CAN MAKE
AN IDIOT OF
MYSELF.

AND BECAUSE
MY CAREER
DOESN'T HINGE
UPON THIS STORY,
I CAN LET THE
ODD PIECE OF
DOUBT ENTER IN.

I'M NOT SAYING
I'VE GOT ALL
THE ANSWERS.

BUT YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE
TO ACCEPT THAT
NEITHER DO YOU.

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO GO OUT WITH MY MEN THIS TIME. YOU DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO.

BUT UNLESS YOU CAN NAIL THIS CREATURE IN THE NEXT FORTY-EIGHT HOURS? I DON'T NEED YOU.

LIKE THE KILLER MIGHT NOT BE THE MONSTER.

WHAT?! HOW'D YOU KNOW?

JUST A HUNCH, AMONGST OTHER THINGS.

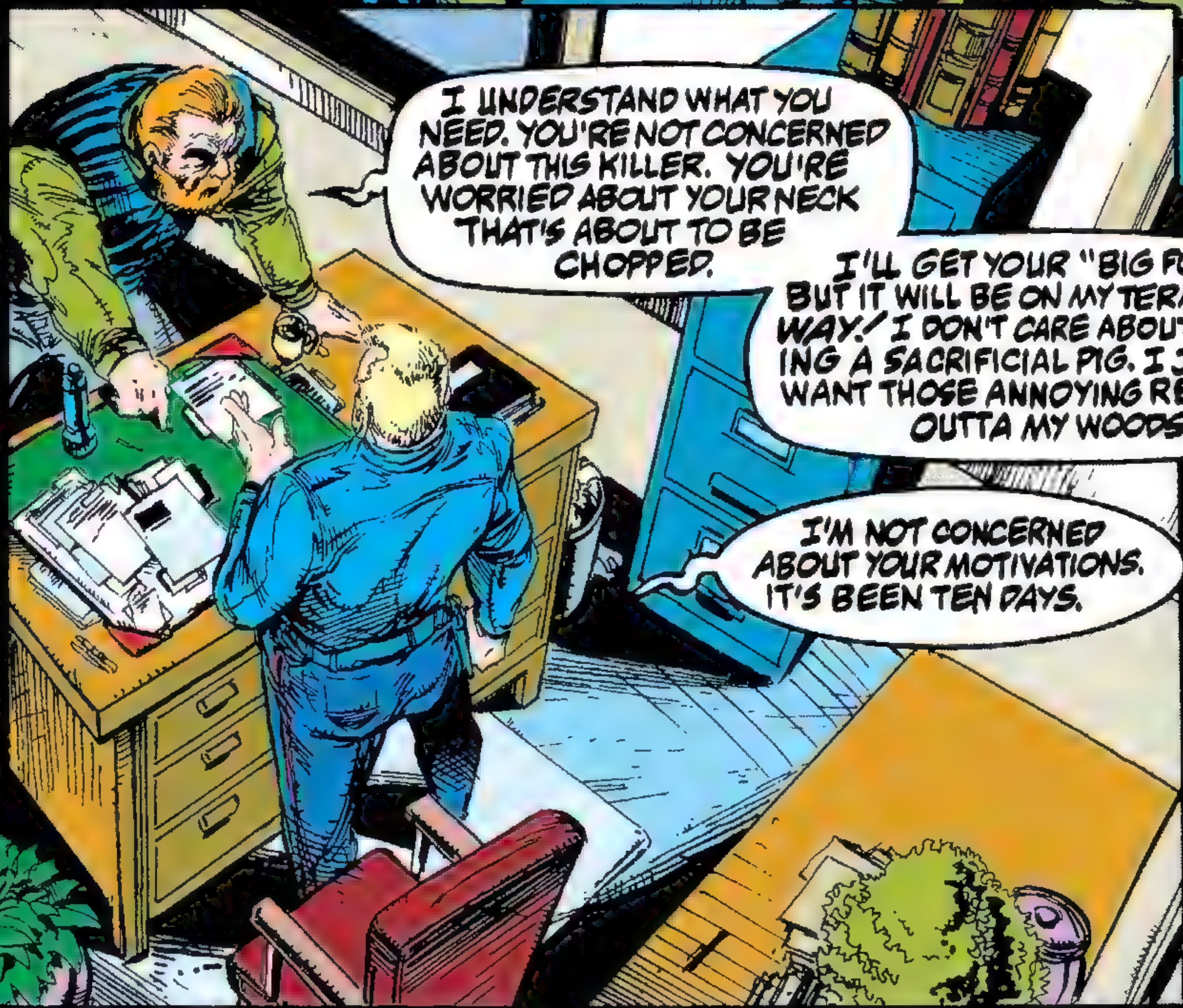
LOOK, THORPE, WE NEED TO GIVE THE PEOPLE SOMETHING... ANYTHING!


THERE ARE RUMORS THAT COULD DEVASTATE THE COMMUNITY AND...

I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU NEED. YOU'RE NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THIS KILLER. YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR NECK THAT'S ABOUT TO BE CHOPPED.

I'LL GET YOUR "BIG FOOT." BUT IT WILL BE ON MY TERMS. MY WAY. I DON'T CARE ABOUT CATCHING A SACRIFICIAL PIG. I JUST WANT THOSE ANNOYING REPORTERS OUTTA MY WOODS.

I'M NOT CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR MOTIVATIONS. IT'S BEEN TEN DAYS.





" I WANT THAT CREATURE
DEAD BY DAY TWELVE. "

" THAT'S HOW YOU CAN HAVE
THE WOODS ALL TO YOURSELF. "

WEN-DI-GO

GLAD TO
SEE YOU'RE
FEELING
BETTER.

WHO SAYS
YOU'RE
WIMPY ?



NOW BEFORE YOU RIP MY HEAD OFF, LET ME TELL YOU WHAT'S UP.

IF WE DON'T SOLVE THIS LITTLE CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY SOON, I DON'T THINK YOUR ODDS OF SURVIVING THE YEAR ARE VERY GOOD.

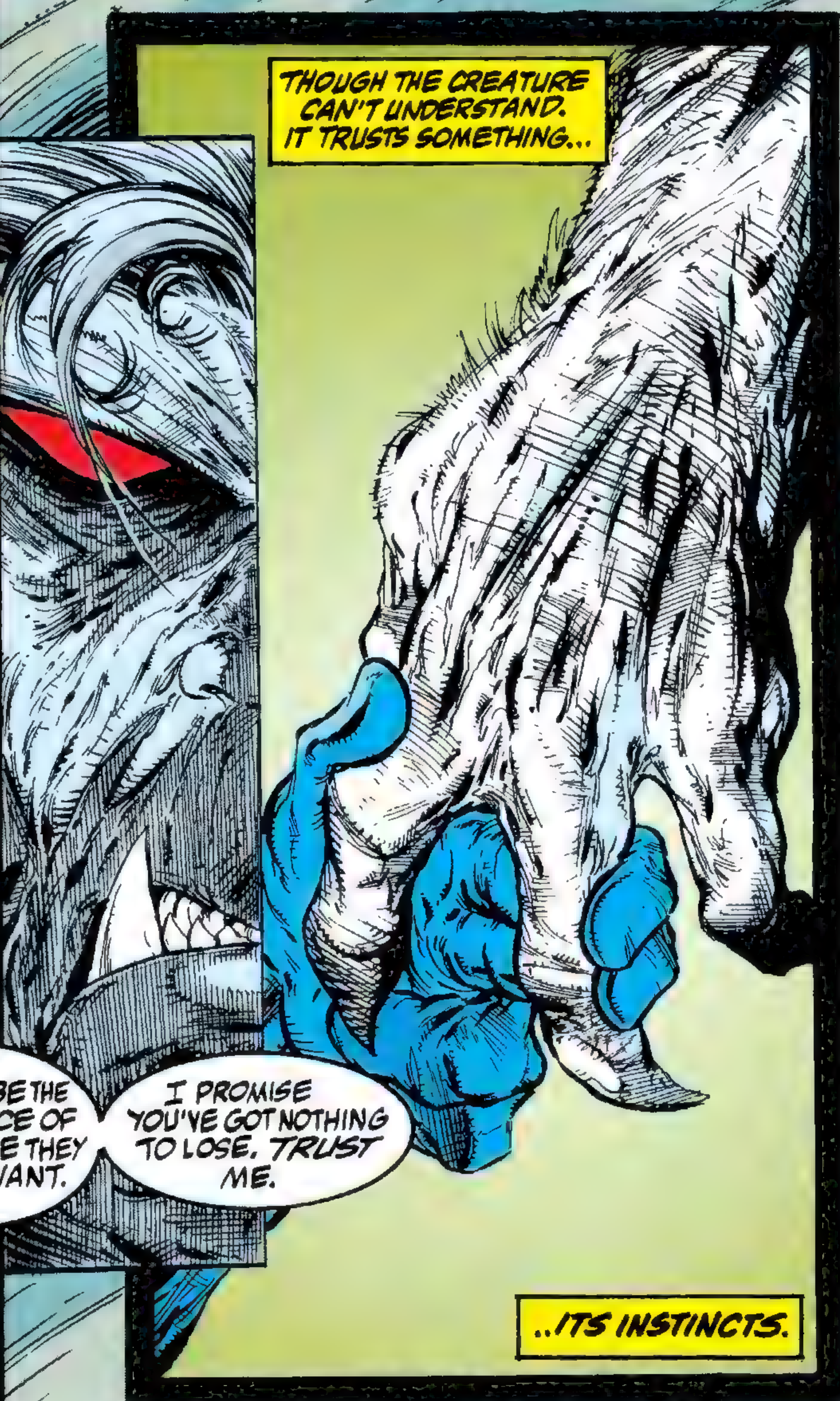
HECK, SURVIVING THE WEEK!



BUT WE DON'T HAVE CONTROL OVER THAT. WHAT WE DO HAVE CONTROL OF IS WHERE WE GO AND WHEN WE GO.

SO YOU NEED TO FOLLOW MY LEAD.

I HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER BODY.



THOUGH THE CREATURE CAN'T UNDERSTAND. IT TRUSTS SOMETHING...

THAT'LL BE THE LAST PIECE OF EVIDENCE THEY MIGHT WANT.

I PROMISE YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE. TRUST ME.

...ITS INSTINCTS.

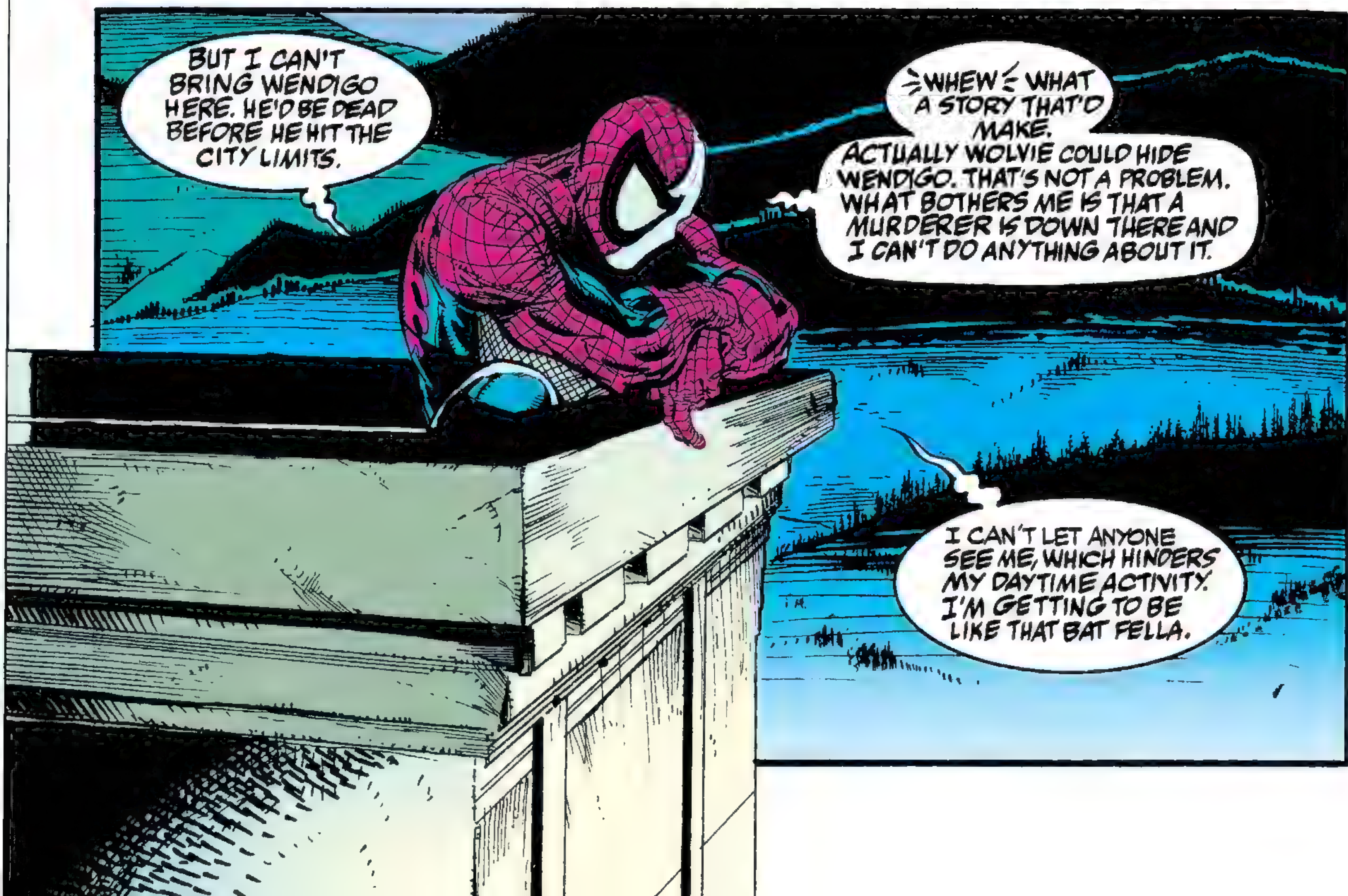


THIS
STINKS!

ANNA WON'T
BELIEVE ME, THE
COPS WON'T
BELIEVE ME, AND
MELVIN'S AN
IDIOT.

I JUST CAN'T
UNDERSTAND THEM.
JUST BECAUSE WENDIGO
HAD THE DEAD BOY IN HIS
HANDS AND ATTACKED THE
MOUNTIES... WHAT KIND
OF REASONS ARE THOSE
TO ASSUME HE'S GUILTY?

I WOULDN'T
BELIEVE ME
EITHER.



BUT I CAN'T
BRING WENDIGO
HERE. HE'D BE DEAD
BEFORE HE HIT THE
CITY LIMITS.

WHEW! WHAT
A STORY THAT'D
MAKE.
ACTUALLY WOLVIE COULD HIDE
WENDIGO. THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM.
WHAT BOTHERS ME IS THAT A
MURDERER IS DOWN THERE AND
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

I CAN'T LET ANYONE
SEE ME, WHICH HINDERS
MY DAYTIME ACTIVITY.
I'M GETTING TO BE
LIKE THAT BAT FELLA.

WE WOULDN'T WANT TO
THINK ABOUT THE BOY'S
PARENTS AND FAMILY.

THEY'VE BECOME
A FREAK SHOW.

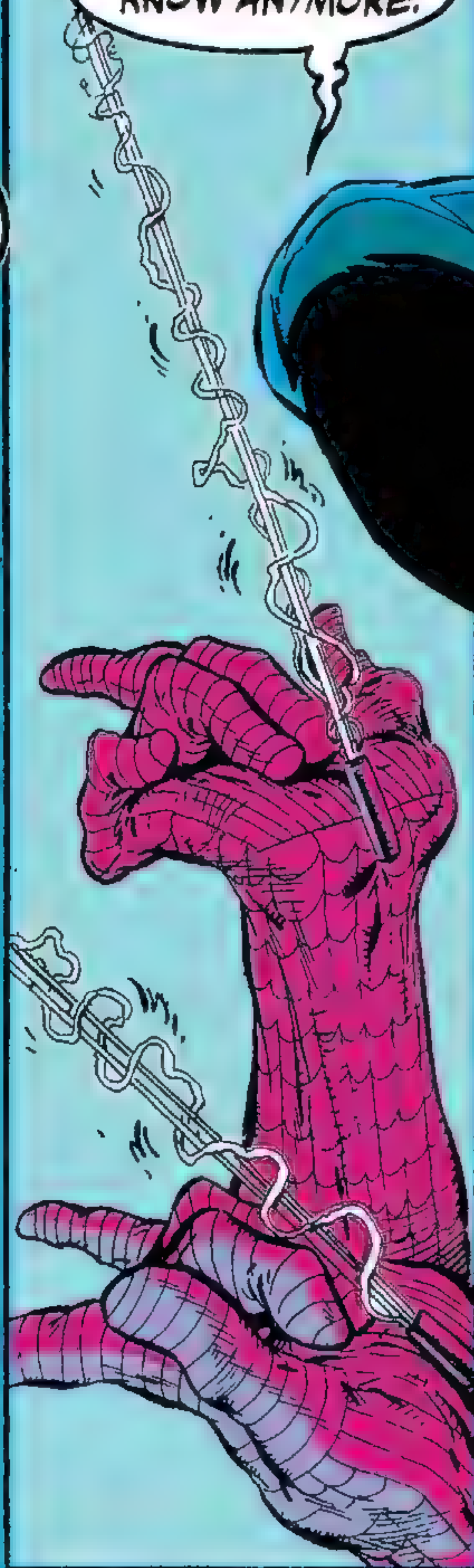


I DON'T THINK
I'VE EVER SEEN
AS SICK A
STORY AS THIS.
CAREERS, HEAD-
LINES, PRESTIGE.

MY GOD, ARE WE
MISSING THE POINT?
EVEN WORSE, DO WE
WANT TO GET IT?

ARE SALES GOING TO
DICTATE OUR ETHICS?
SO THERE'S A MURDER.
YAHOO! WE'VE READ
ABOUT THAT BEFORE.

I JUST DON'T
KNOW ANYMORE.

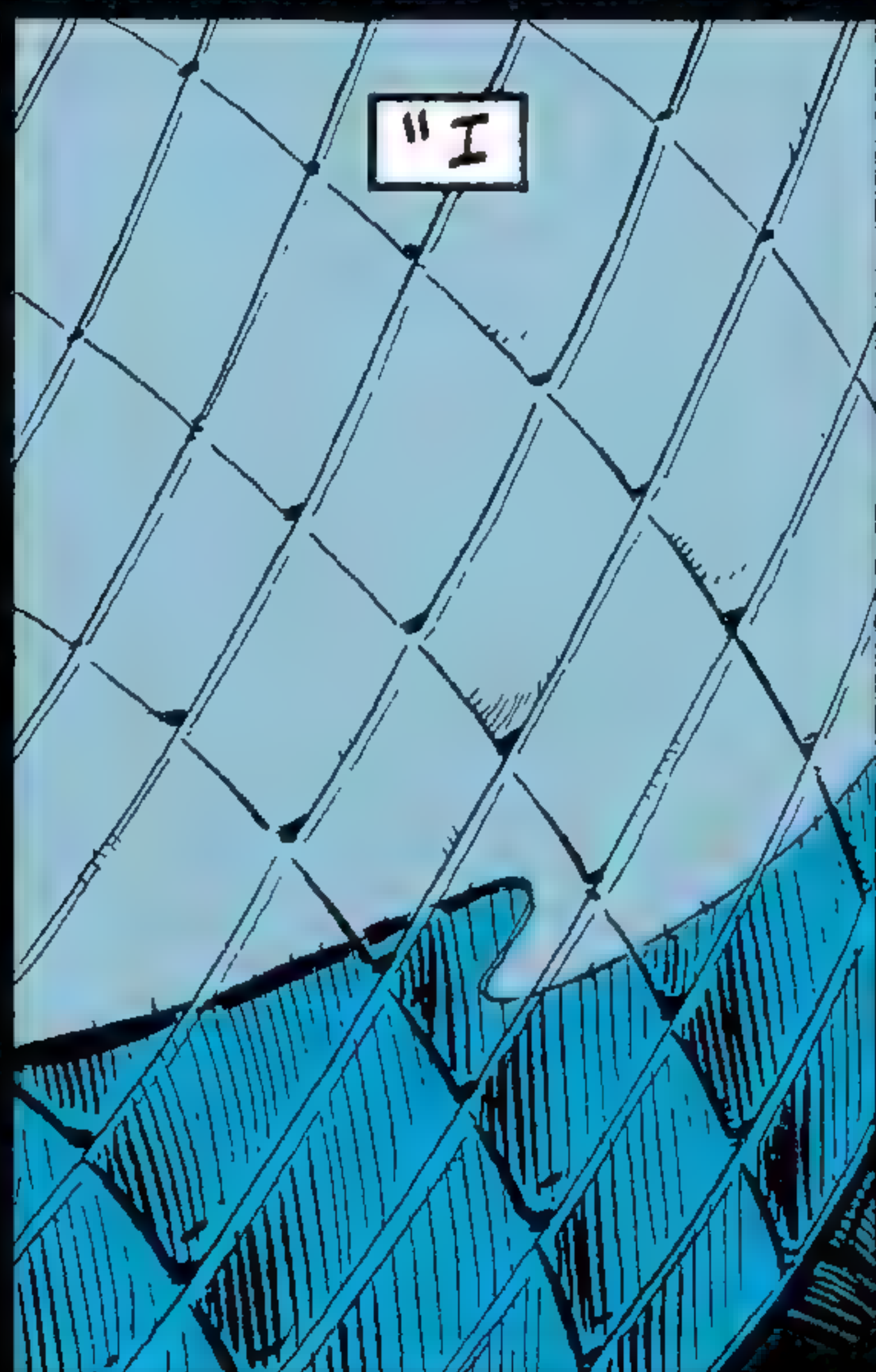


MARY JANE,
WHERE ARE YOU
WHEN I NEED YOU?!

WELL, TIME TO
MEET WOLVIE. BUT
HE IS NOT GOING TO
BE IMPRESSED
WITH MY EFFORT.



THEN AGAIN,
NEITHER
AM I.



"I



JUST



HOPE



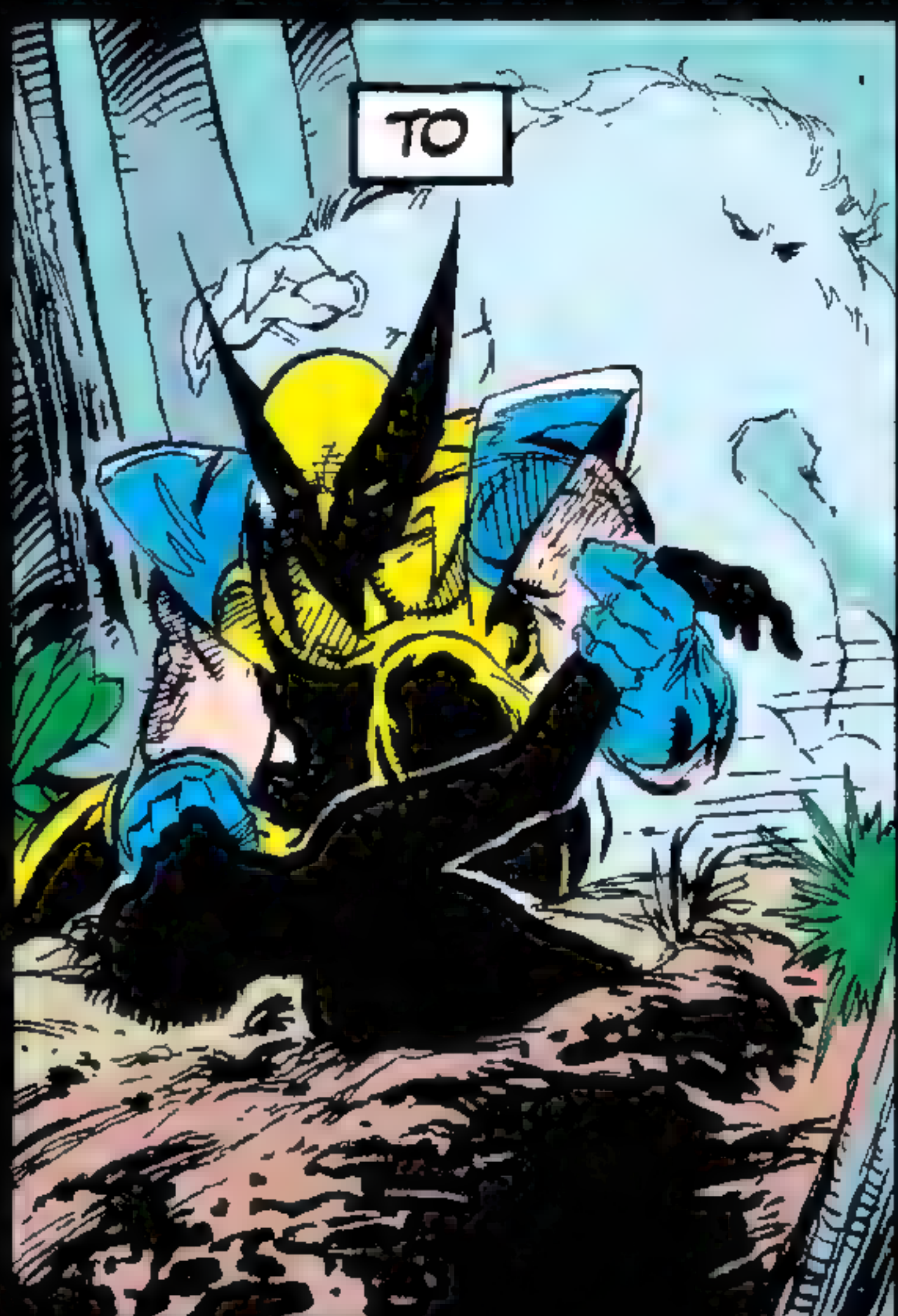
HE



WAS



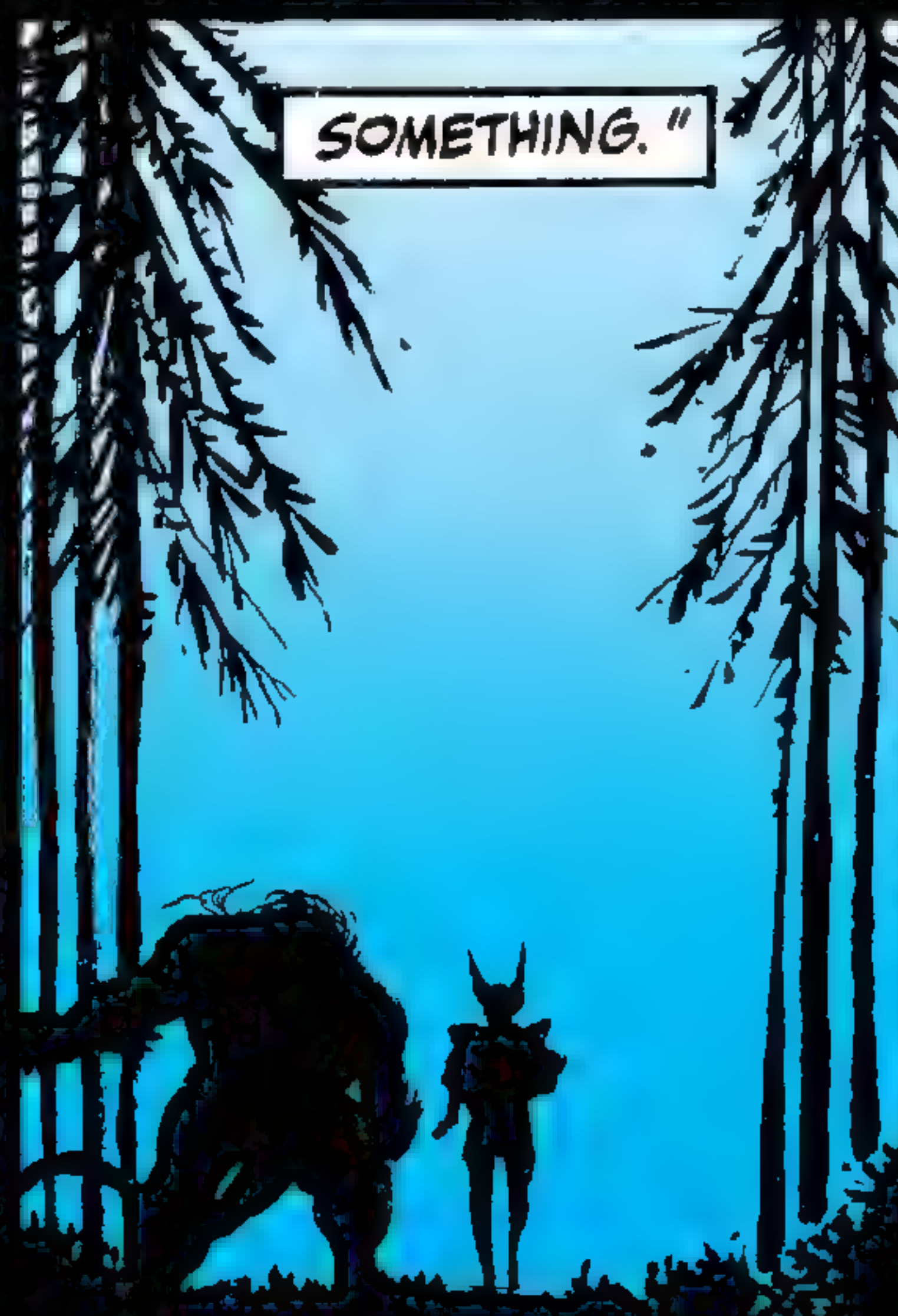
ABLE



TO



FIND



SOMETHING."



WENDIE GO!

IT'S BEEN A LONG NIGHT.
FOR THE FIRST TIME WENDIE
HOWLS NOT WITH PAIN.

OR ANGER.

BUT WITH
ANGUISH.

NEXT: THE CONCLUSION

MARVEL
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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

"PERCEPTIONS" PART 5 OF 5

SPIDER-MAN


GUEST-STARRING
WOLVERINE!



McFARLANE

THE KILLER
REVEALED!





THE MEDIA WON'T BELIEVE US.
THE R.C.M.P. WON'T BELIEVE US.
CRIPES! EVEN SPIDER-MAN'S
PARTNER WON'T.

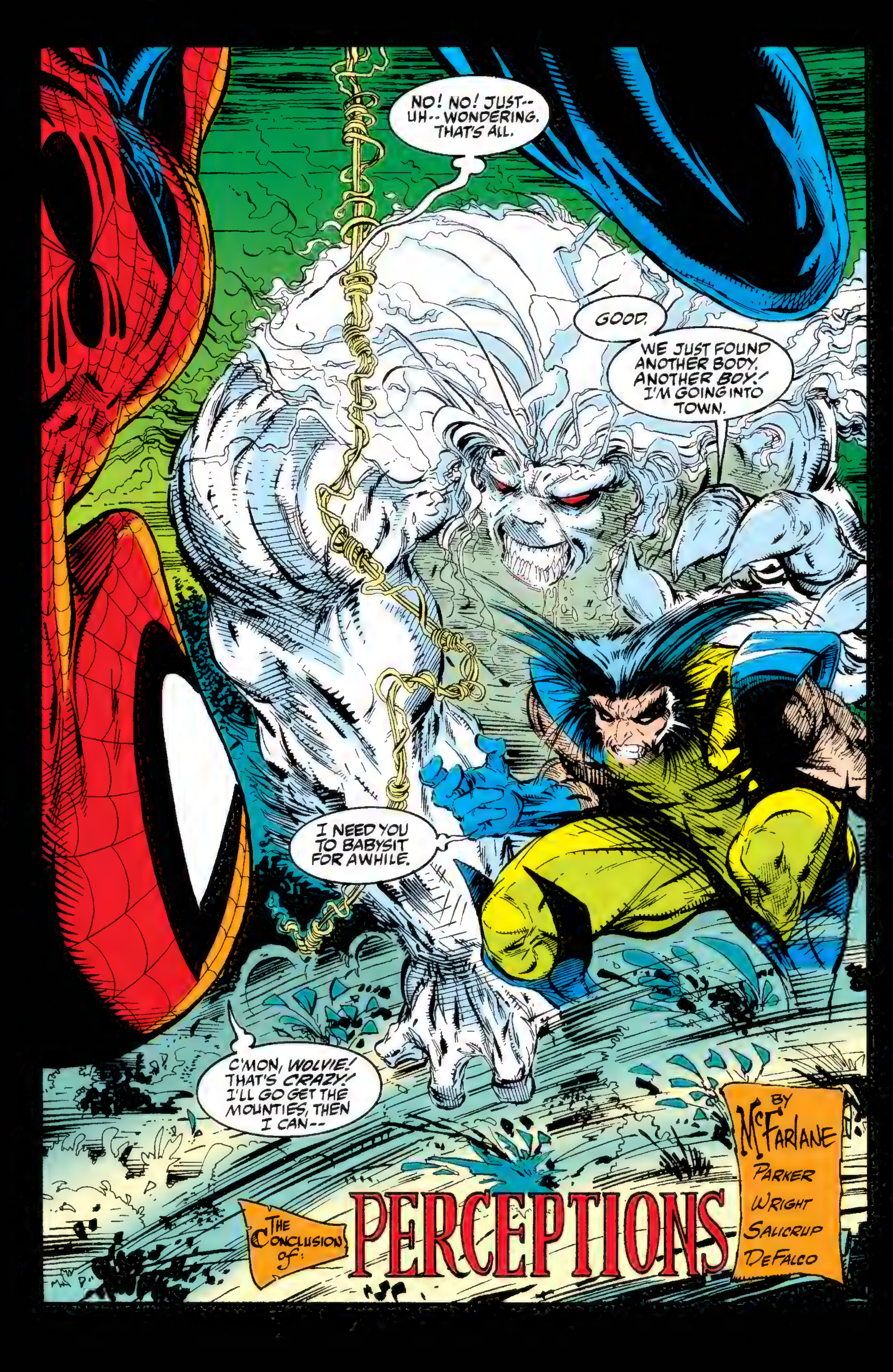
THEY'RE IDIOTS
ANYWAY.

I'VE GIVEN THEM ALL THE
CLUES THEY NEED. BUT
EVERYONE'S CAUGHT UP
IN THE LIGHT SHOW.

WELL, SPIDEY HAD
HIS CHANCE, TIME TO
ALTER OUR
TACTICS. I'M TIRED
OF GIVING THEM A
CHOICE. FROM NOW
ON WE DO THINGS
MY WAY.

PERIOD.

BECAUSE I
WANT HIM HERE.
YOU GOT A PROB-
LEM WITH THAT?



NO! NO! JUST--
UH-- WONDERING.
THAT'S ALL.

GOOD.

WE JUST FOUND
ANOTHER BODY.
ANOTHER BOY!
I'M GOING INTO
TOWN.

I NEED YOU
TO BABYSIT
FOR AWHILE.

C'MON, WOLVIE!
THAT'S CRAZY!
I'LL GO GET THE
MOUNTIES, THEN
I CAN--

THE
CONCLUSION
OF:

PERCEPTIONS

BY
McFARLANE
PARKER
WRIGHT
SALICRUP
DE FALCO

WENDIGO!

OKAY! I'M NOT MOVING! I'M NOT MOVING!

Sheesh

YOU'VE HAD YOUR CHANCE. NOW IT'S MINE.

YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO--





WAIT HERE?

YOU BET
YOUR REAR
I DO!

I'VE GOT ENOUGH
DEAD ANIMALS OUT
HERE TO DAM A RIVER.
AND THAT DEAD BOY
THERE, HE'S NOT THE
LAST. I GUARANTEE
IT.

YOUR FRIENDS
DON'T WANT TO
BELIEVE YOU, FINE.
BUT I CAN BE VERY
PERSUASIVE WHEN
I NEED TO.

SO YOU JUST
ENJOY SOME TIME
WITH WENDIE AND
I'LL BE BACK TO GIVE
YOU FURTHER ORDERS.

OH-- IF YOU
DECIDE TO CHANGE
YOUR MIND, I THINK
THE MEDIA WOULD
BE QUITE ENTHUSED
WITH A COUPLE OF
FACTS.

GET MY
DRIFT--
PARKER!

YEAH.
YEAH.

I'LL TAKE
CARE OF
THE KID.

MY GOD, WHAT
HAVE THEY DONE
TO HIM?



WEN-DI-GO!

WHAT NOW?

I'M JUST TRYING TO HELP. AT LEAST LET ME COVER THE BOY UP.



NO!

I NEED THE BOY OUT IN THE OPEN SO I CAN GET A CONFESSION. I WANT THE MURDERER TO SEE THE AFTERMATH OF HIS ACTIONS.

WENDIGO WILL KEEP ANY PREDATORS FROM THE BODY. YOUR JOB IS TO STOP THE HUMANS.

MINE'S TO MAKE THEM PAY.

WENDIGO'S BELLY IS STILL MENDING FROM BULLET WOUNDS, MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T GET TOO EXCITED.

I'VE TOLD YOU HE DOESN'T EAT HUMAN FLESH... NOT YET.

WHAT IF HE TRIES TO GO FOR THE BOY?

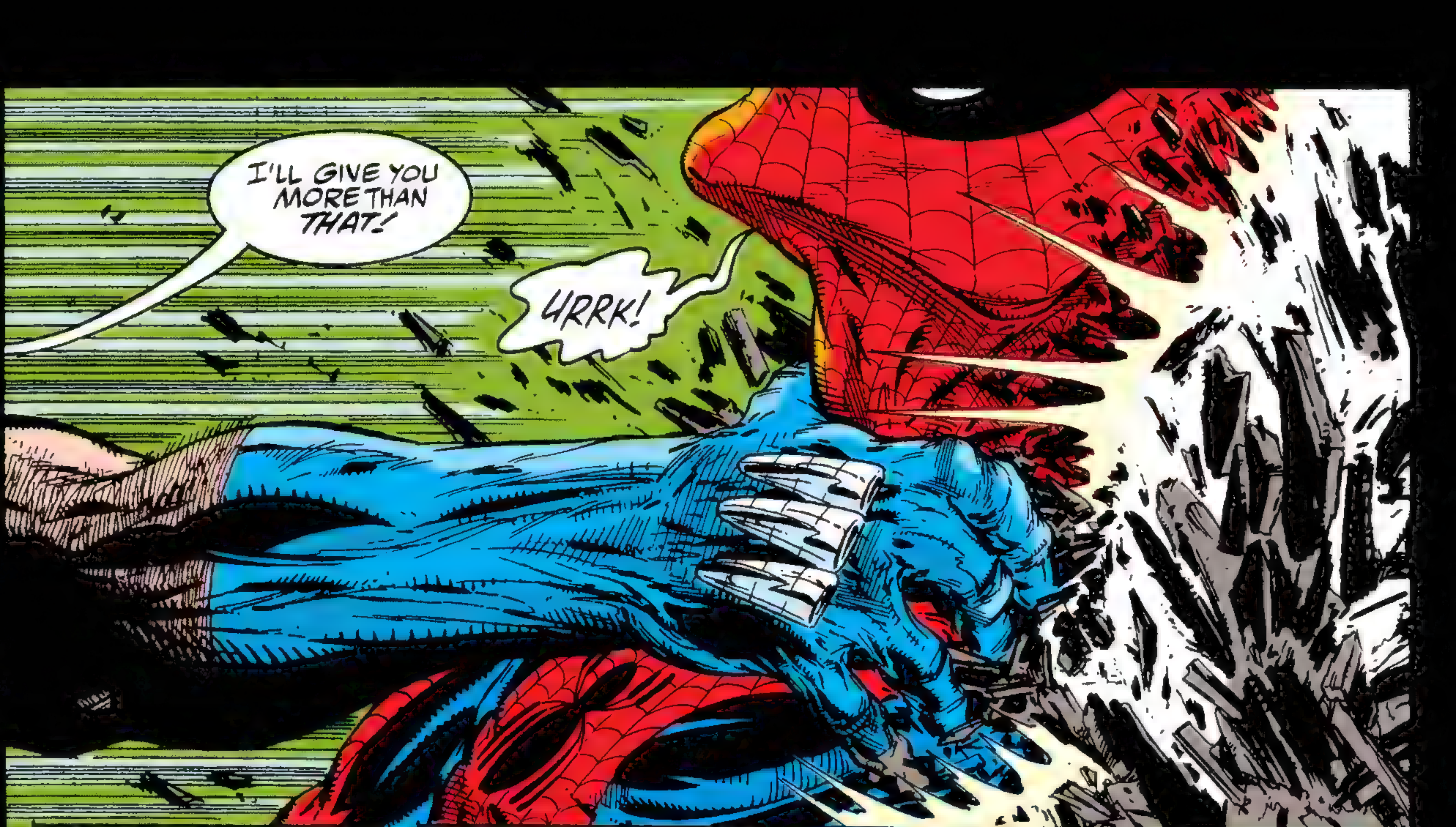
HE'S HIDING FROM THE HUNTERS, THINKS WE ARE TOO. NO SENSE CHANGING HIS MIND.

NOW WAIT A MINUTE! HOW LONG AM I SUPPOSED TO WAIT?

AS LONG AS IT TAKES.

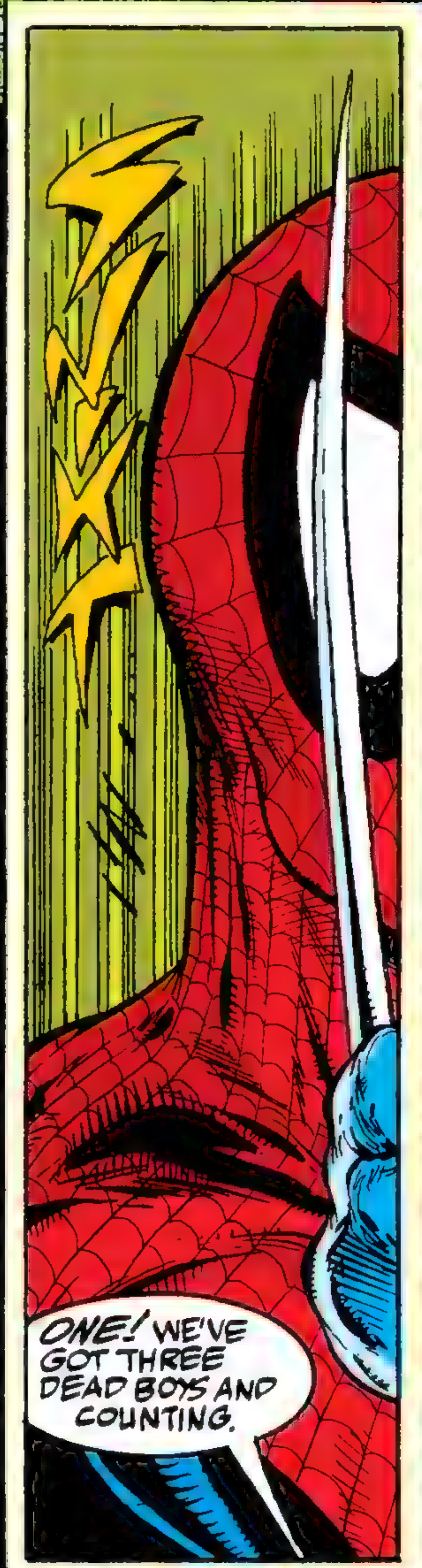
NOW KINDLY REMOVE YOUR HAND BEFORE YOU LOSE IT.

BEFORE YOU GO, GIVE ME ONE GOOD REASON WHY I SHOULD LISTEN TO YOU?




I'LL GIVE YOU
MORE THAN
THAT!

UARRK!



ONE! WE'VE
GOT THREE
DEAD BOYS AND
COUNTING.




TWO! WE'VE
GOT HUNDREDS
OF DEAD
ANIMALS AND
COUNTING.

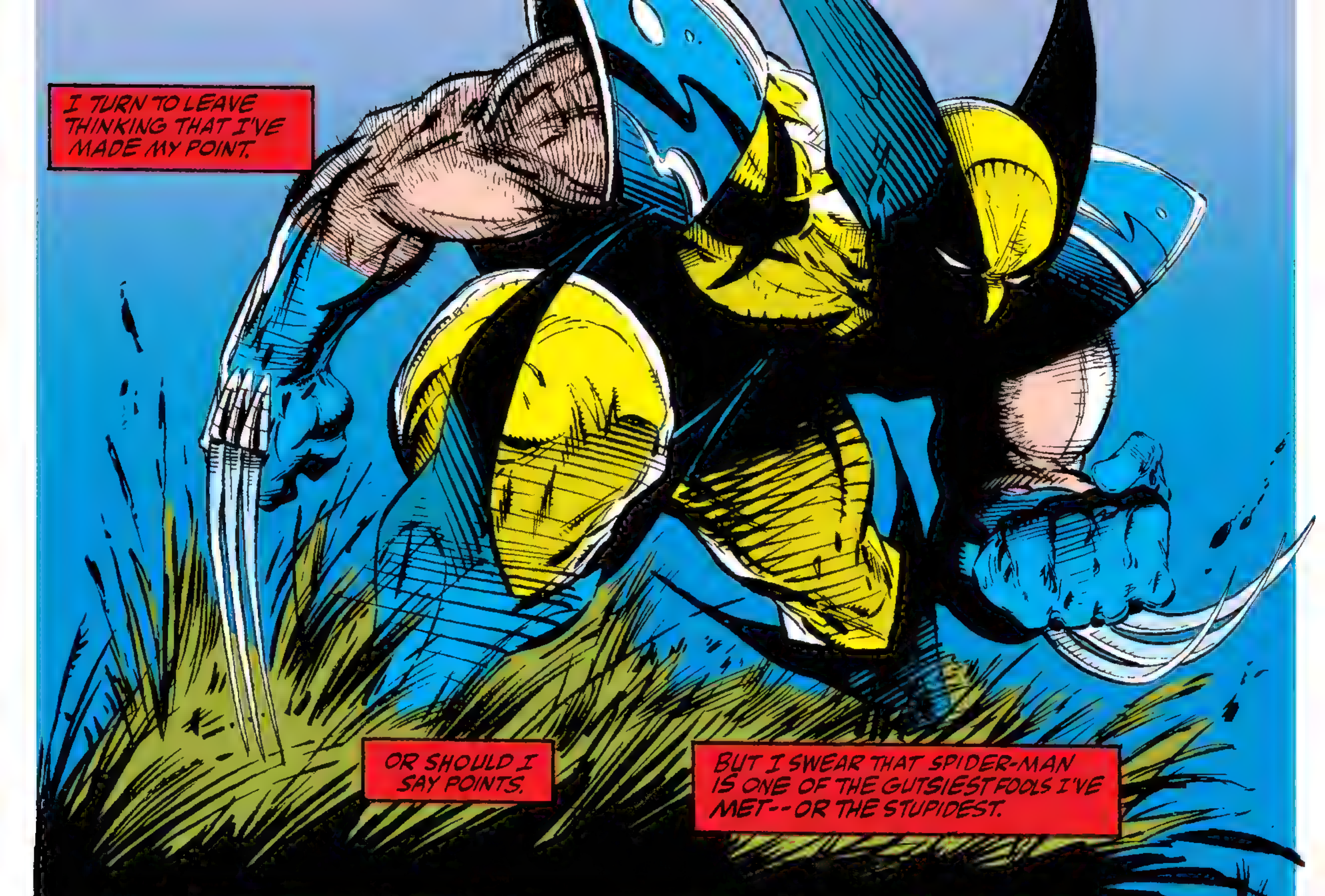
TWO
AND A
HALF--



I'M A
MOODY
LITTLE
CUSS.



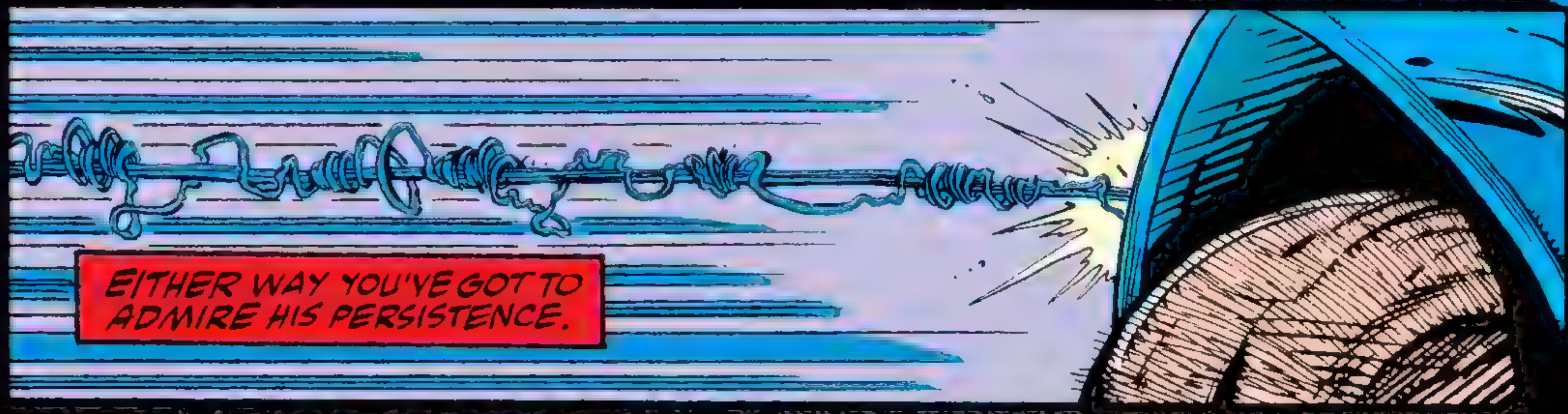
I PROMISE
YOU DON'T
WANT REASON
THREE.



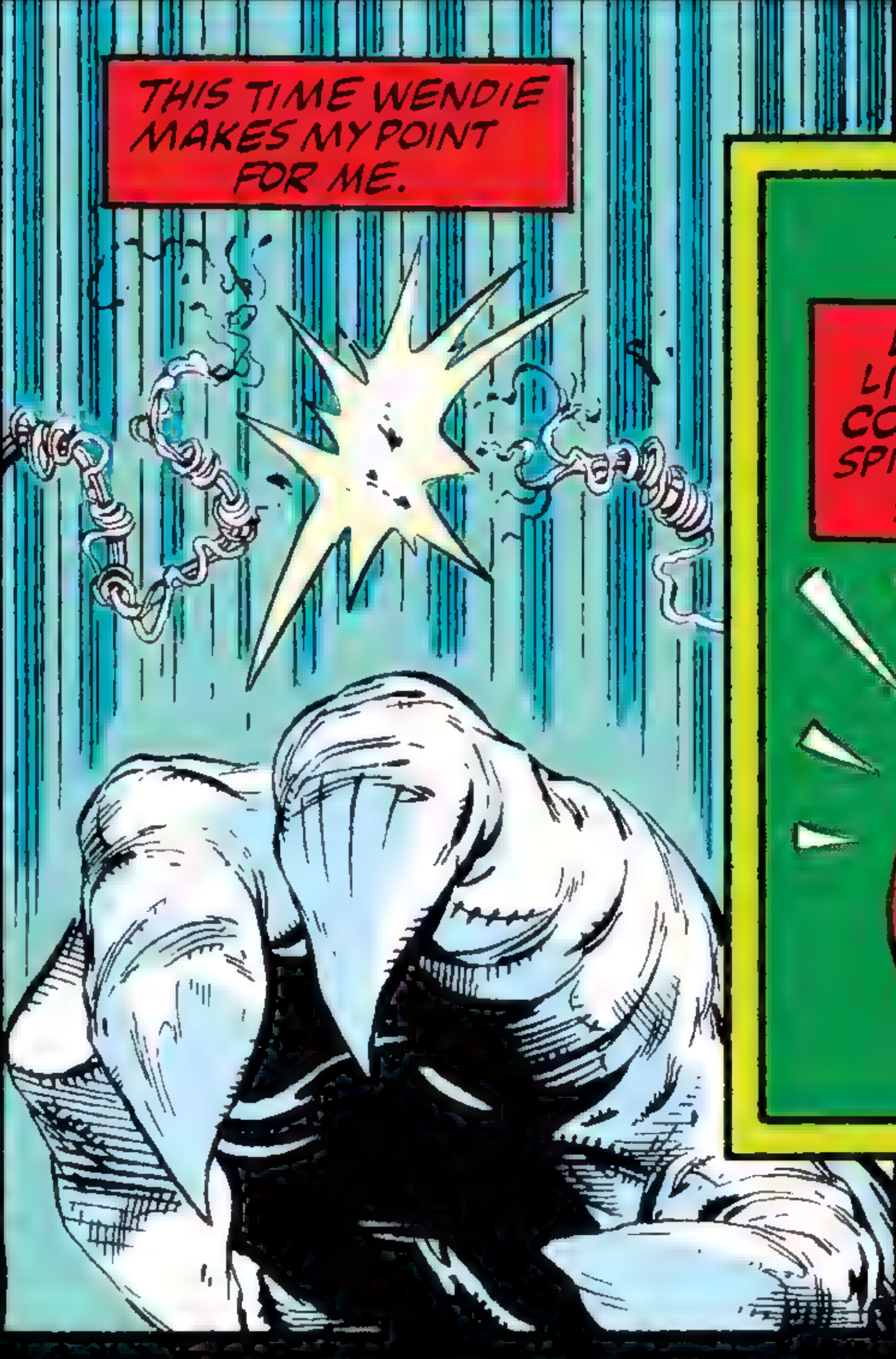
I TURN TO LEAVE
THINKING THAT I'VE
MADE MY POINT.

OR SHOULD I
SAY POINTS.


BUT I SWEAR THAT SPIDER-MAN
IS ONE OF THE GUTSIEST FOOLS I'VE
MET-- OR THE STUPEDEST.



EITHER WAY YOU'VE GOT TO
ADMIRE HIS PERSISTENCE.



THIS TIME WENDIE
MAKES MY POINT
FOR ME.



LOOKS
LIKE HE'S
CONVINCED
SPIDEY TO
STAY.

MY, AREN'T
WE
PROTECTIVE?

LATER

HOPE AIN'T SUCH A BAD LITTLE TOWN. BUT IT'D BE A LOT NICER IF SOME OF THE LEECHES WEREN'T HERE. I CAN TELL THE RESIDENTS HAVE JUST ABOUT LOST THEIR PATIENCE. SO I'D BETTER FINISH THIS HUNT.

COVERED HALF THE TOWN ALREADY. SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM TO FINISH THE REST.

THE SCENTS COMING FROM THE BOY I FOUND TELL ME WHOEVER DID THIS HANGS AROUND TOWN.

GOOD THING, 'CAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO CHECK THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE STICKS.

SAD PART IS, HE'S GONNA MAKE THIS TOO EASY FOR ME.

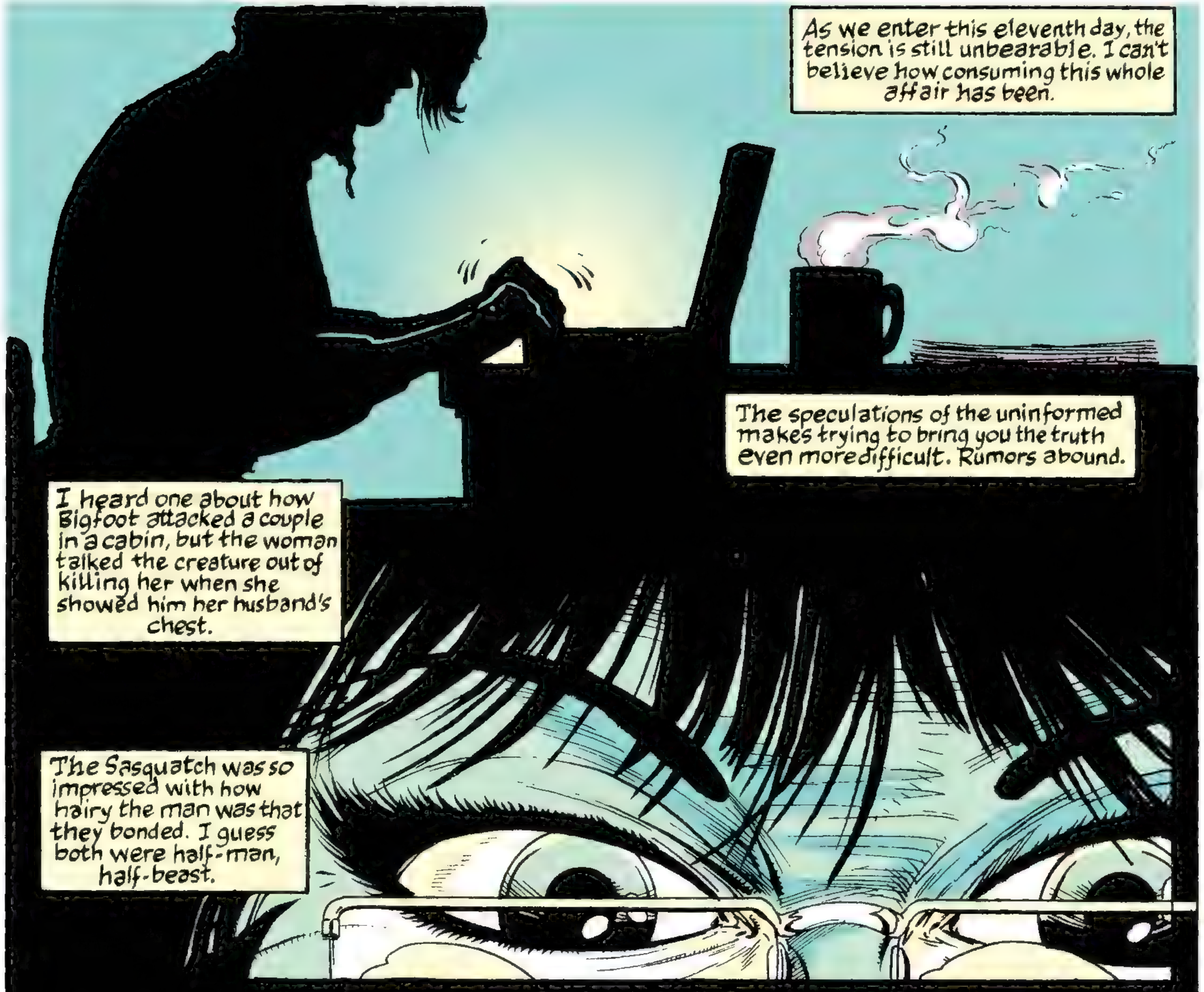
WHOEVER THE PIG IS THAT KILLED THOSE BOYS WILL STINK OF DEATH.

WHICH BRINGS ME HERE. NOW IF I CAN JUST---

GOT 'IM!

NOW AIN'T THAT INTERESTING.

GOTTA DO THIS SO THE BOYS' PARENTS KNOW THE TRUTH.

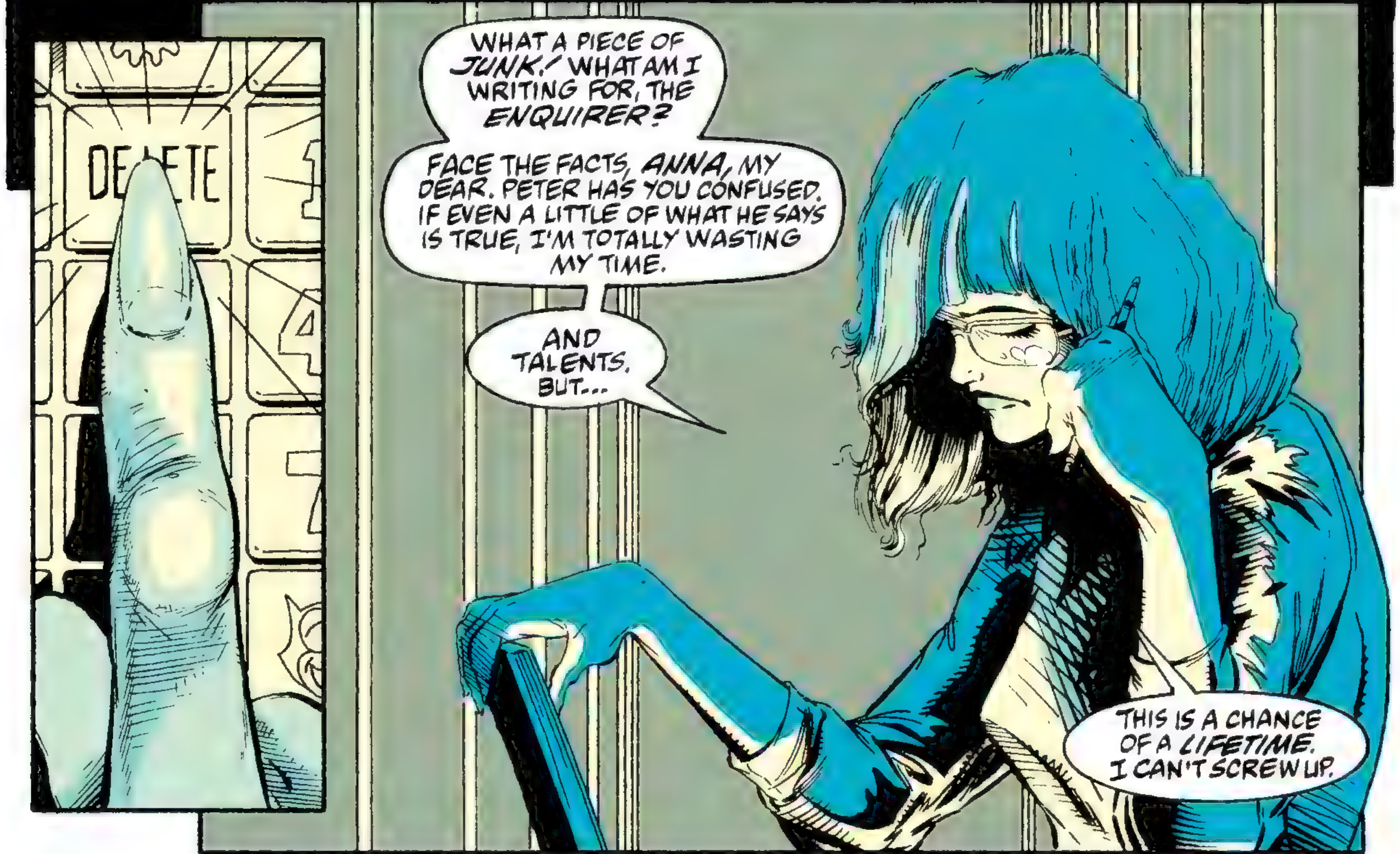


As we enter this eleventh day, the tension is still unbearable. I can't believe how consuming this whole affair has been.

I heard one about how Bigfoot attacked a couple in a cabin, but the woman talked the creature out of killing her when she showed him her husband's chest.

The speculations of the uninformed makes trying to bring you the truth even more difficult. Rumors abound.

The Sasquatch was so impressed with how hairy the man was that they bonded. I guess both were half-man, half-beast.



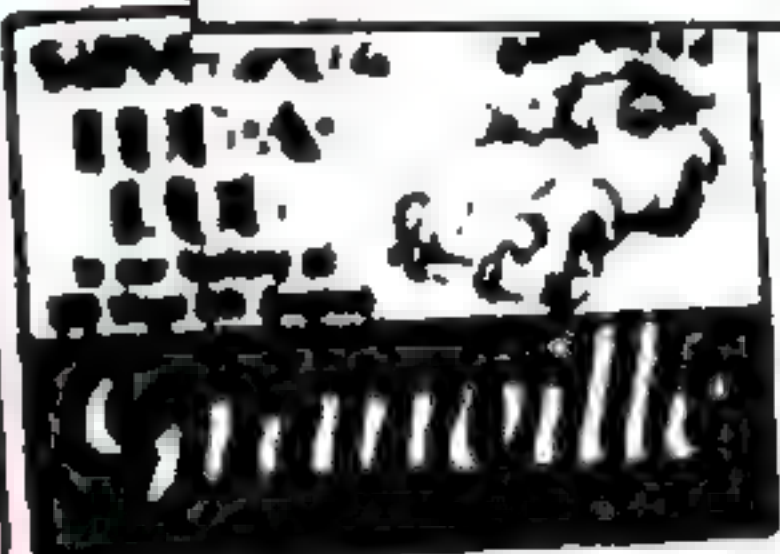
WHAT A PIECE OF JUNK. WHAT AM I WRITING FOR, THE ENQUIRER?

FACE THE FACTS, ANNA, MY DEAR. PETER HAS YOU CONFUSED. IF EVEN A LITTLE OF WHAT HE SAYS IS TRUE, I'M TOTALLY WASTING MY TIME.

AND TALENTS, BUT...

THIS IS A CHANCE OF A LIFETIME. I CAN'T SCREW UP.

"HOW MANY TIMES WILL I
GET TO WRITE HEADLINE
NEWS?"



80 cents minimum outside Lower Mainland

The Vancouver Sun



80 CENTS

When Will Sasquatch Die?

DAY ELEVEN:

ANNA BROOKS

"ALL THIS STUFF ISN'T MY
FAULT. I CAN'T CONTROL
THE ACTIONS OF OTHERS.
BUT I HAVE TO COMPETE
WITH THEM. LOOK OUT
FOR NUMBER ONE."

THIS IS *UNREAL!*
TO USE MY NAME IN
VAIN. IS NOTHING
SACRED ANYMORE?

OH, YOU GOT A PATENT ON THE
NAME? C'MON, *EH*, WOLVIE
TOLD US TO SIT TIGHT. HE CAN
HANDLE IT.

ELEVEN
DAYS. I'M NOT
SO SURE.

C'MON, LIKE
HE'S A PRO,
EH!

GRETZ!
KINGS!
WIN!
STANLEY CUP

"I'M A PROFESSIONAL.
CAN'T LET OTHERS GET TO
ME. I'VE A JOB TO DO AND
DEADLINES TO MEET."

CAGO GLOBE

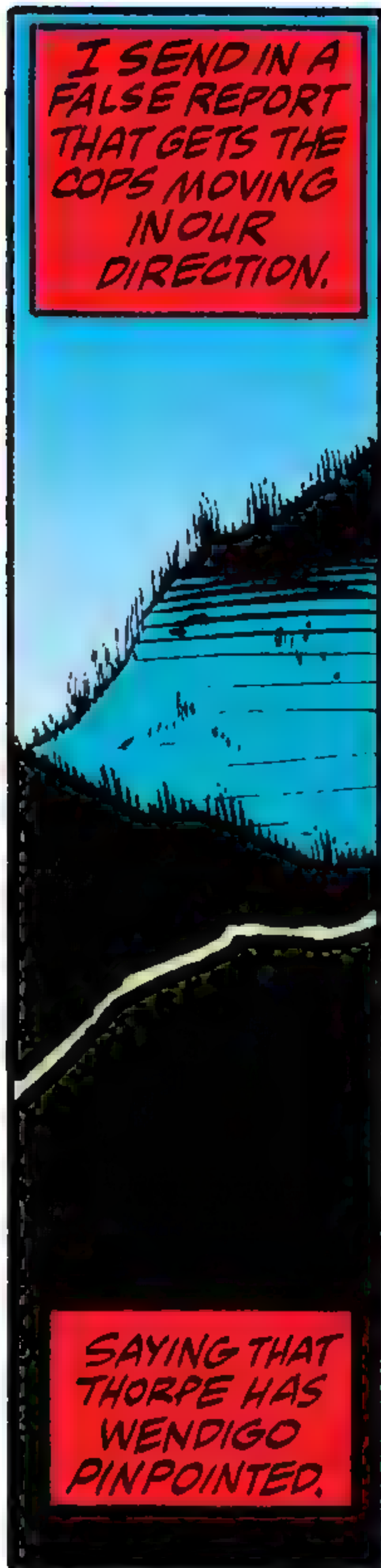
Hunt For Baby Killer



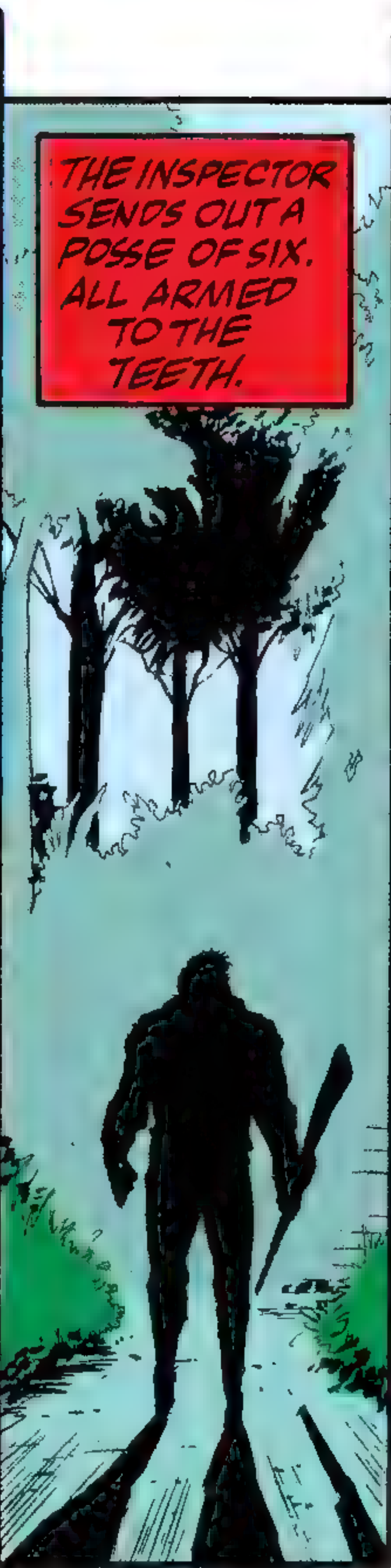
"HOPE PETER AND THE
OTHERS CAN LEARN TO
LIVE WITH THEMSELVES."

I SEND IN A FALSE REPORT THAT GETS THE COPS MOVING IN OUR DIRECTION.

SAYING THAT THORPE HAS WENDIGO PINPOINTED.



THE INSPECTOR SENDS OUT A POSSE OF SIX, ALL ARMED TO THE TEETH.



THORPE IS SUPPOSED TO LEAD 'EM TO THE SLAUGHTER. UNFORTUNATELY, I'VE GOT OTHER PLANS FOR HIM.




THORPE IS CLOSER TO THE SITUATION THAN HE THINKS. HE'S A GOOD TRACKER.

BUT NOT THAT GOOD.

SNIKT



IT'S TIME YOU AND I HAD A FEW WORDS!



WITH THORPE IN MY GRASP I CAN SETTLE THIS THING MY WAY. QUICK AND CLEAN.

SPIDER-MAN'S METHODS DIDN'T GET RESULTS. I DON'T KNOW WHY HE'S SUCH A GOODY TWO-SHOES.

--- THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT TO THE STORE, THIS LITTLE PIGGY WANTS SOME MORE, AND THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT WEE! WEE! WEE! ALL THE WAY HOME!



AREN'T WE MATURE?

HECK, OLD WENDIE'S A PUSHOVER ONCE YOU'VE GOTTEN PAST THE DISGUSTING THING HE CALLS A FACE.

SO WHAT'S UP?





THERE ARE SIX MOUNTIES ABOUT A HALF MILE FROM HERE. THREE ARE ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE, THE OTHERS ON THE WEST. I NEED YOU TO STALL THEM FOR ME.

AND WHAT'S YOUR PART?

TO END THIS THING TONIGHT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT IF YOU CAN SOMEHOW NAIL THIS CREEP---

--THEN DO IT!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH.

HOPE IT LASTS.

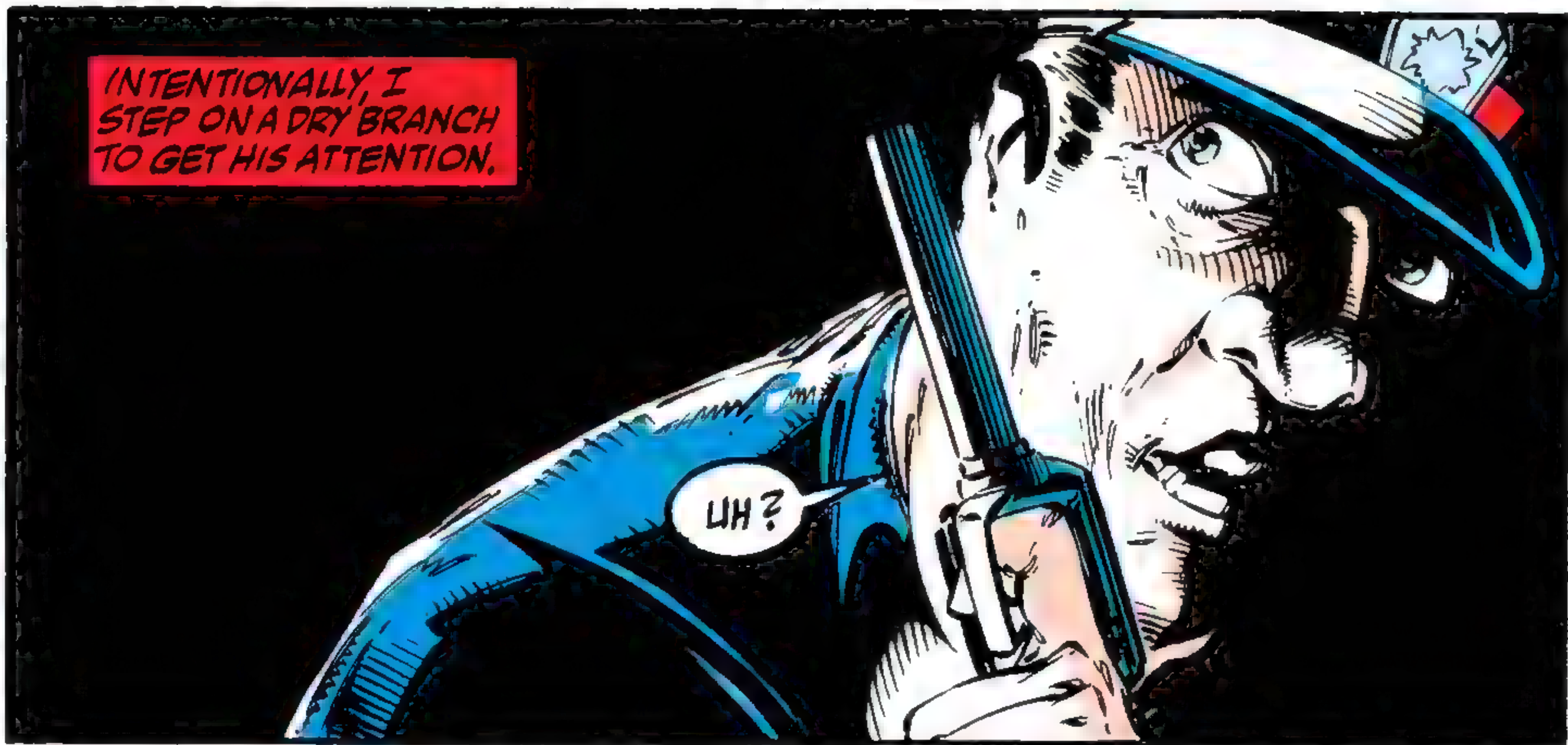


ON THE SOUTH SIDE THERE'S ANOTHER GUEST. I LEAKED OUT A DIFFERENT LOCATION TO THE INSPECTOR'S GROUP.

MARTY? JIMMY? WHERE THE HECK ARE YOU?

I TOOK OUT THE OTHER TWO, NO SENSE IN HAVING A CROWD. BESIDES, IT'S THE INSPECTOR'S PRESENCE THAT I NEED TONIGHT.

BUT FIRST LET'S DIS-ARM HIM.



INTENTIONALLY, I STEP ON A DRY BRANCH TO GET HIS ATTENTION.

UH?



THEN I MAKE SURE I KEEP IT.



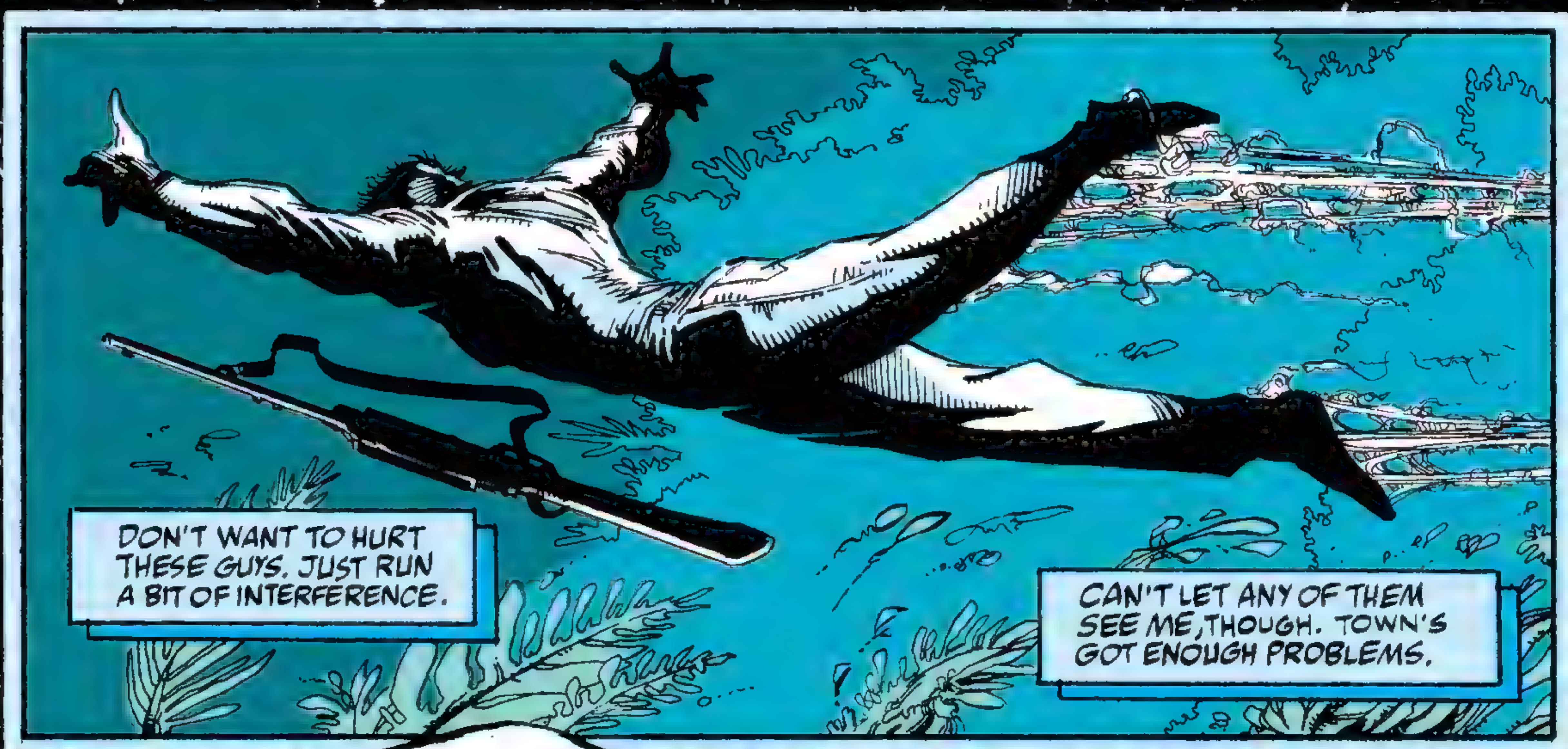
CRIPES!

I THINK HE GETS THE MESSAGE.



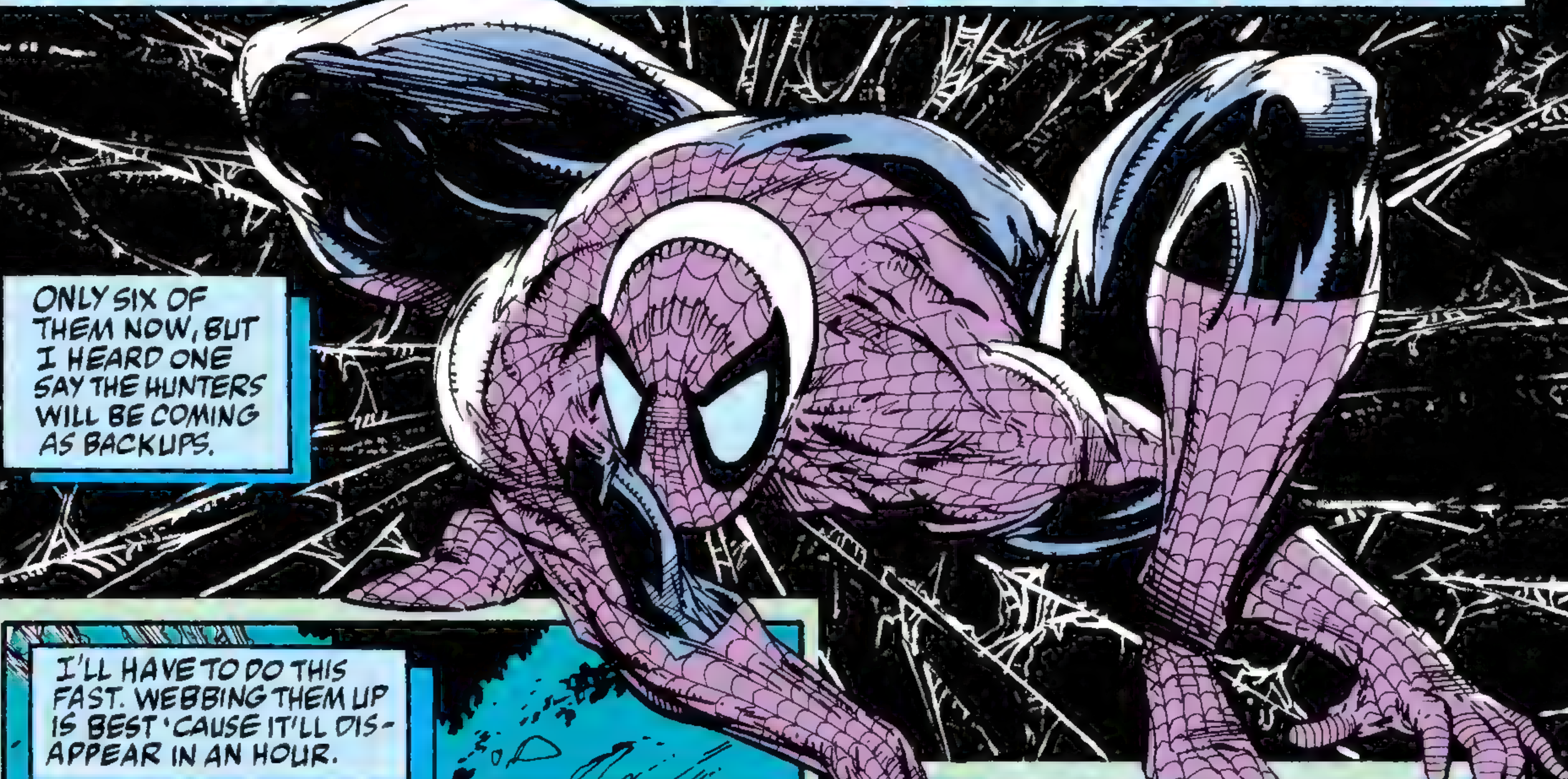
BUB, I'M LOOKING FOR A CONFESSION AND I NEED YOUR HELP TO GET IT.

SO FOLLOW ME, 'CAUSE THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO SEE.

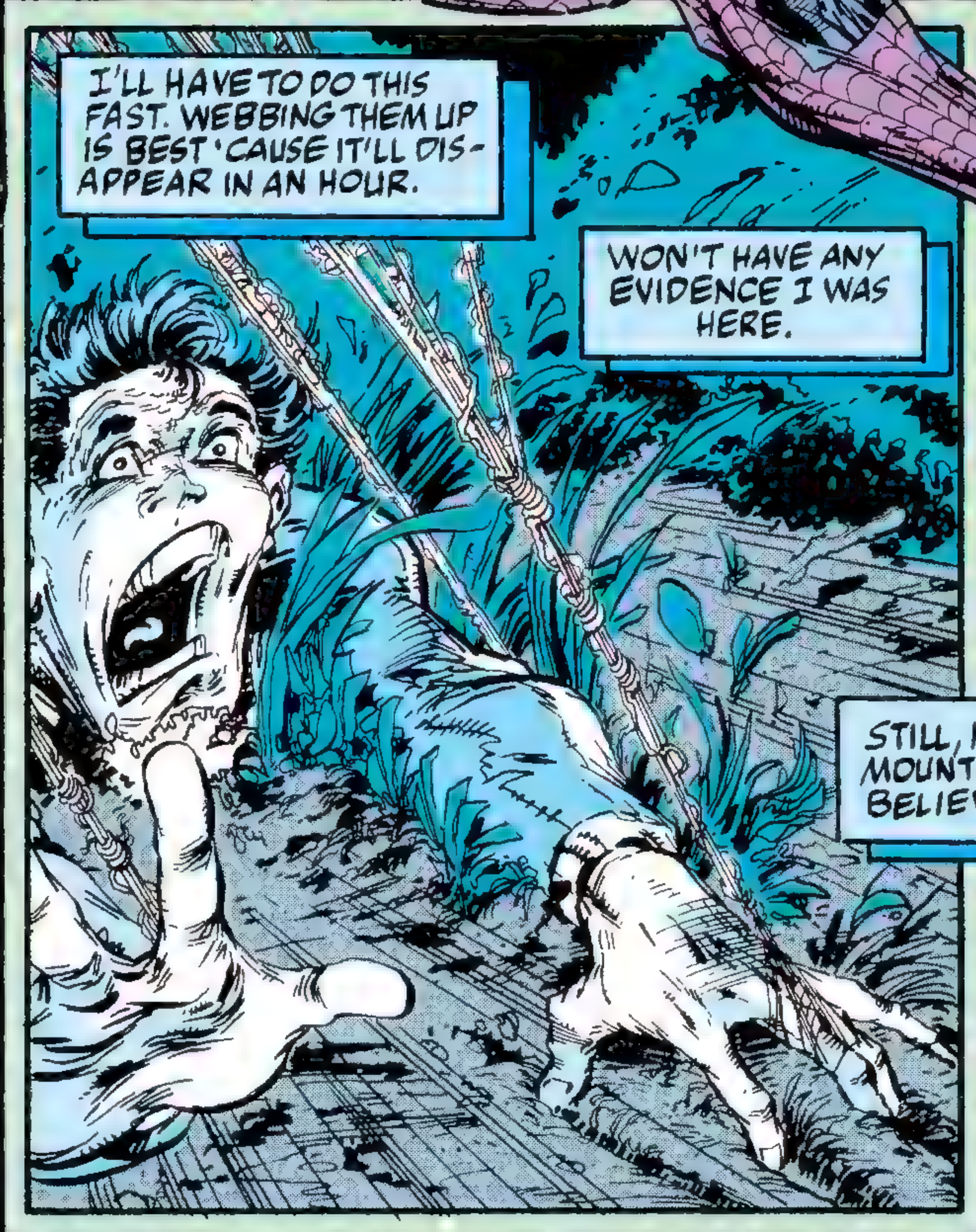


DON'T WANT TO HURT THESE GUYS. JUST RUN A BIT OF INTERFERENCE.

CAN'T LET ANY OF THEM SEE ME, THOUGH. TOWN'S GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS.

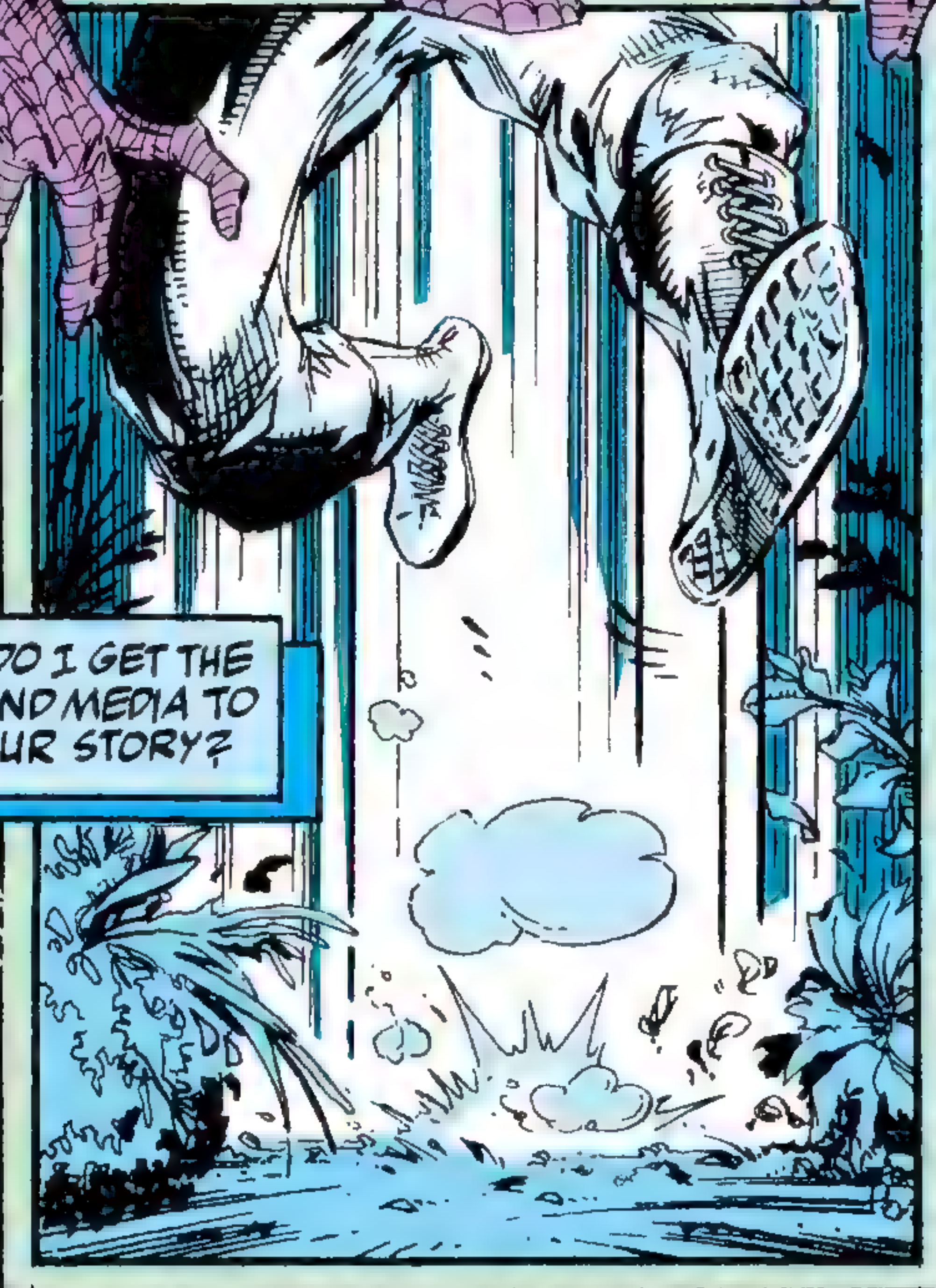


ONLY SIX OF THEM NOW, BUT I HEARD ONE SAY THE HUNTERS WILL BE COMING AS BACKUPS.



I'LL HAVE TO DO THIS FAST. WEBBING THEM UP IS BEST 'CAUSE IT'LL DISAPPEAR IN AN HOUR.

WON'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE I WAS HERE.



STILL, HOW DO I GET THE MOUNTIES AND MEDIA TO BELIEVE OUR STORY?

CRIPES,
IS THAT
THORPE?

YOU'RE FREAKIN'
RIGHT IT IS.
NOW YOU JUST STAND
THERE, INSPECTOR, AND
I'LL MAKE EVERYTHING
CLEAR.

THE FIRST BOY THE REPORTER
FOUND, DAVID NEUSEL, WASN'T
KILLED BY BIGFOOT. MY SENSES
FOUND ONLY HUMAN ODORS.
THE REASON THEY SENT OUT
THE AUTOPSY TO VANCOUVER
WAS TO VERIFY THE INJURIES.
THE BOY WASN'T MAULED.
ONLY DECOMPOSED.

THE SECOND BOY,
BILLY RICE, WAS FOUND
AT NICHOLL'S FARM. ONLY
THING IS, OLD MAN NICHOLL
NEVER PHONED IN THE
REPORT. IT WAS A SETUP.
THAT BOY WAS DIFFERENT.
HE WAS MAULED, BUT BY
DOGS, NOT MONSTERS. AND
HE WAS WEARING CLOTHES.
THE FIRST BOY WASN'T.


REPORTS OF
DEAD ANIMALS SET
THE HUMANITARIANS
AGAINST THE HUNTERS.
ANOTHER SMOKE-
SCREEN.

AND NOW THIS
THIRD BOY, NAKED
AND DECOMPOSED.
CREATURES DON'T
CHANGE THEIR
HABITS. PEOPLE DO.

YOU WANTED THE
HILLS TO YOURSELF,
DIDN'T YOU, MOUNTAIN
MAN?! BUT YOUR SICK
PERVERSION BACKFIRED.

YEAH, THERE'S A
MONSTER OUT HERE
ALL RIGHT, BUT IT'S
NOT THE BIGFOOT!





YOU KIDNAPPED THOSE BOYS-- AFTER THEY RAN AWAY FROM HOME. FIGURED NO ONE WOULD MISS 'EM.

THEN YOU KEPT 'EM AND ABUSED THEM. HAD TO SATISFY YOUR TWISTED NEED FOR LITTLE BOYS.

PLEASE...

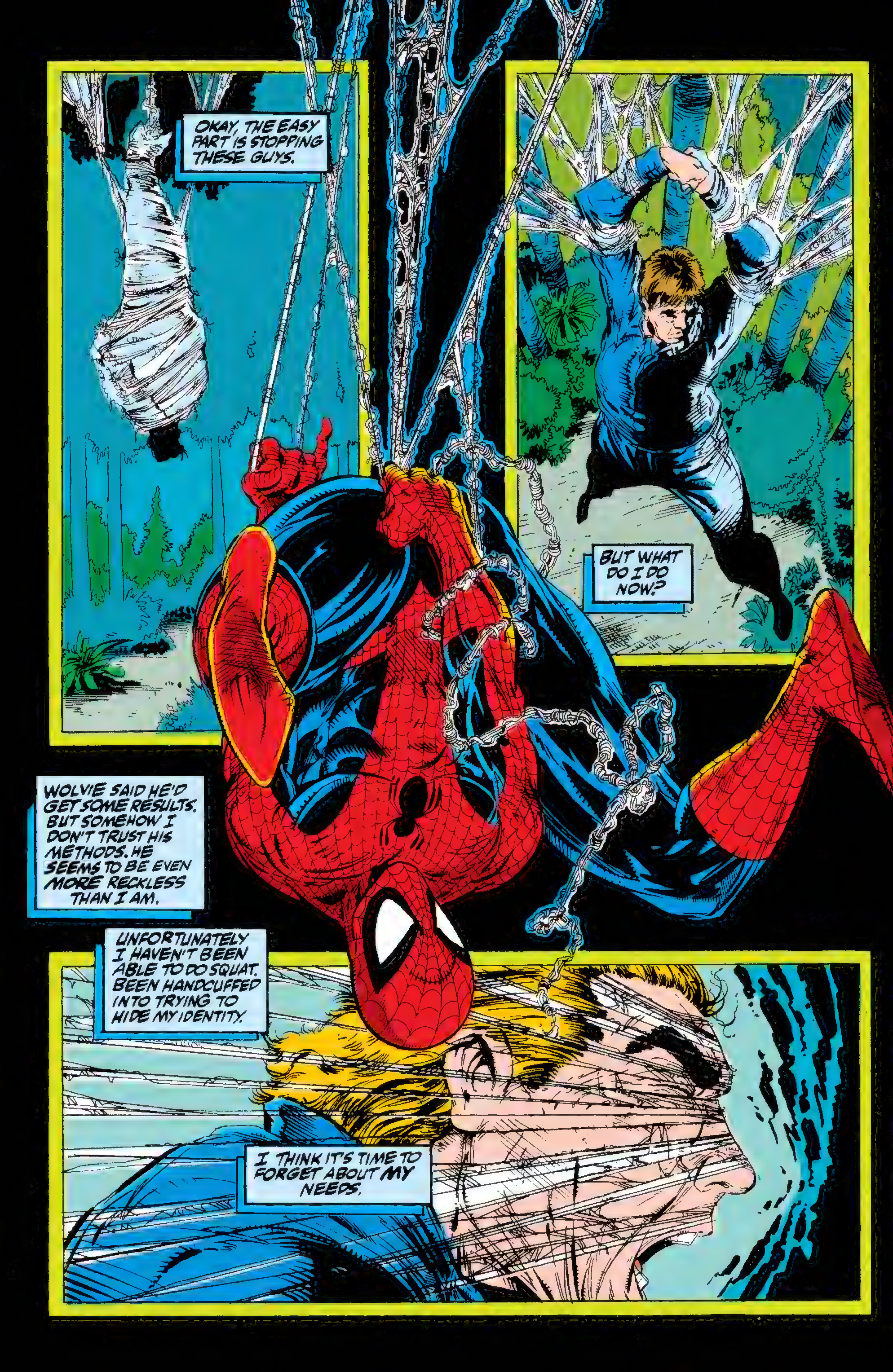
FUNNY NO ONE NOTICED THE VICTIMS WERE ALL YOUNG BOYS.

AND IN THE END, YOU DISPOSED OF THEM WHEN YOU WERE DONE. BURYING THEM TO ROT IN THE GROUND.

YOU'RE SICK! DO YOU HEAR ME!! SICK!

THIS IS FOR THE BOYS! DIE, PIG!

DIE!!



OKAY, THE EASY
PART IS STOPPING
THESE GUYS.

BUT WHAT
DO I DO
NOW?

WOLVIE SAID HE'D
GET SOME RESULTS.
BUT SOMEHOW I
DON'T TRUST HIS
METHODS. HE
SEEMS TO BE EVEN
MORE RECKLESS
THAN I AM.

UNFORTUNATELY
I HAVEN'T BEEN
ABLE TO DO SQUAT.
BEEN HANDCUFFED
INTO TRYING TO
HIDE MY IDENTITY.

I THINK IT'S TIME TO
FORGET ABOUT MY
NEEDS.

PRETTY SICK,
HUH? FACT IS, HE
DIDN'T KILL THE
BOYS--*YOU* DID!!

I JUST DIDN'T WANT ANY
WITNESSES TO SEE WHAT'S
GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU.

I-- I DON'T KNOW
WHAT Y-YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT.

HAVE IT YOUR WAY, BUT I
THINK THERE'S SOMEONE
HERE THAT SAYS
DIFFERENTLY!

WEN-DI-GO!

PLEASE--
KEEP HIM
AWAY! I'LL
DO ANYTHING!

OKAY! OKAY! I ADMIT IT
WAS ME. THE BOYS, THEY
WERE HAVING PROBLEMS,
WERE GOING TO RUN
AWAY. DIDN'T *MEAN*
TO HURT THEM, BUT
WHAT IF THEY TOLD?/
SO I PLANTED THE
RICE BOY...

HAD THE DOGS
CHEW HIM BEFORE
I BURIED HIM--FOR-
GOT TO TAKE OFF
HIS CLOTHES. DIDN'T
THINK ANYONE WOULD
NOTICE THE FIRST BOY
DIDN'T HAVE ANY--

THEN I
STALLED
THE
AUTOPSY,
SENT
IT TO VAN
COUVER.

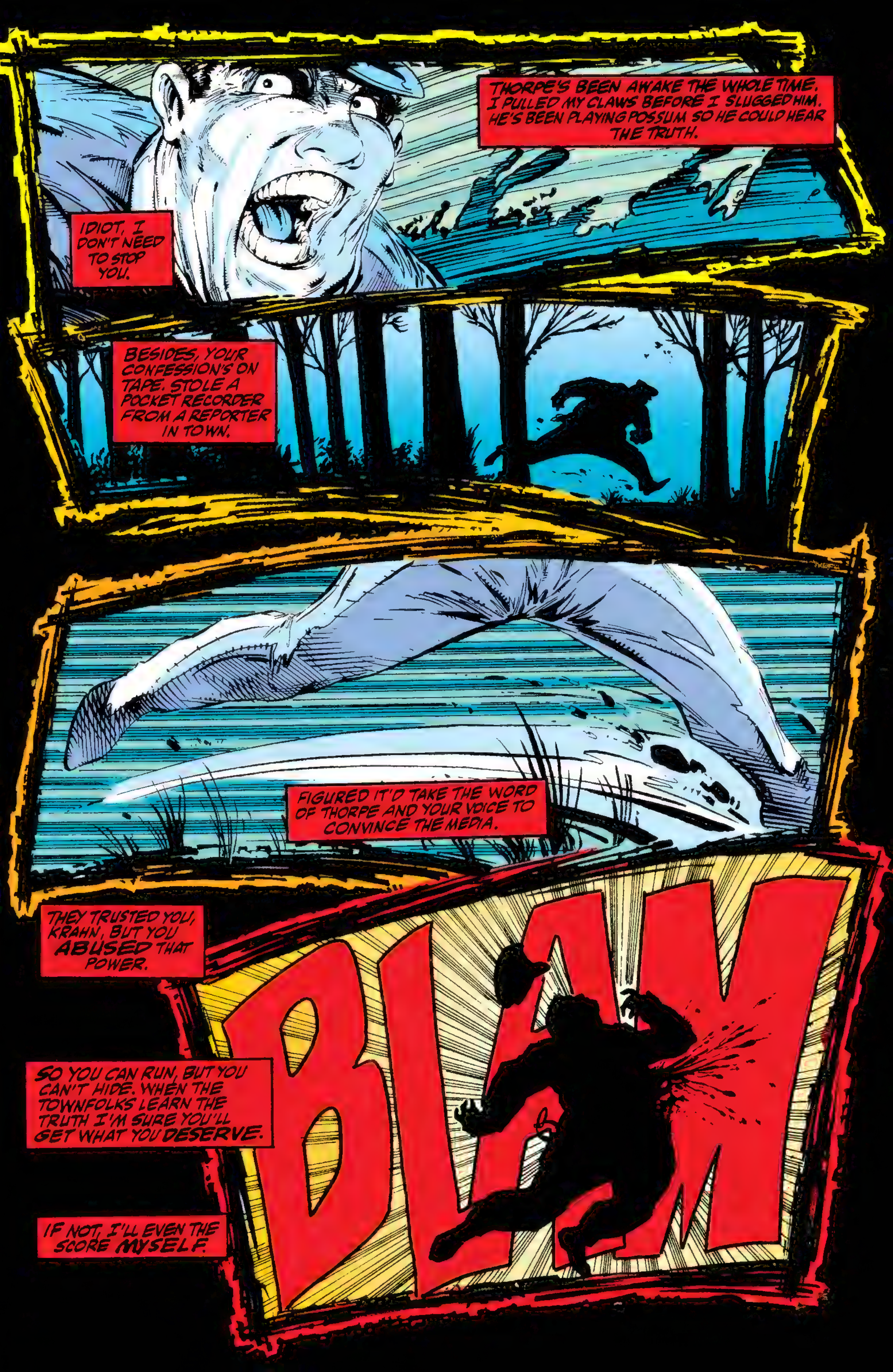
THEN START
TALKING AND DON'T
SKIP THE GOOD
PARTS.

FIGURED IF WE GOT
THE *BIGFOOT* THEN
I'D BE SAFE BUT THE RE-
PORTERS, THEY WOULDN'T--

GUY'S EVEN CRAZIER
THAN I THOUGHT, BUT HE
RAMBLES ON FOR TEN
MINUTES BEFORE DOING
SOMETHING STUPID.

YOU'LL NEVER
STOP ME!

HERE.



THORPE'S BEEN AWAKE THE WHOLE TIME. I PULLED MY CLAWS BEFORE I SLUGGED HIM. HE'S BEEN PLAYING POSSUM SO HE COULD HEAR THE TRUTH.

IDIOT, I DON'T NEED TO STOP YOU.

BESIDES, YOUR CONFESSION'S ON TAPE. STOLE A POCKET RECORDER FROM A REPORTER IN TOWN.

FIGURED IT'D TAKE THE WORD OF THORPE AND YOUR VOICE TO CONVINCE THE MEDIA.

THEY TRUSTED YOU, KRAHN, BUT YOU ABUSED THAT POWER.

SO YOU CAN RUN, BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE. WHEN THE TOWNFOLKS LEARN THE TRUTH I'M SURE YOU'LL GET WHAT YOU DESERVE.

IF NOT, I'LL EVEN THE SCORE MYSELF.

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LATER.

WELL, THORPE CONVINCED THE COPS ABOUT KRAHN'S GUILT. GAVE 'EM ALL THE INFO THEY NEEDED, FUNNY THING IS, THE MEDIA WASN'T TOO HAPPY.

GUESS A MONSTER-KILLER IS MORE EXCITING THAN A HUMAN. ANNA BROOKS EVENTUALLY WROTE A LEGITIMATE ARTICLE BASED ON A COPY OF THE TAPE, BUT HER EDITORS DIDN'T CONSIDER IT FRONT PAGE NEWS ANYMORE.

RCMP INSPECTOR KILLS BOYS

BY ANNA BROOKS

Section B pg 20

PRETTY SICK WORLD WHEN THE TRUTH ISN'T WORTH PRINTING.

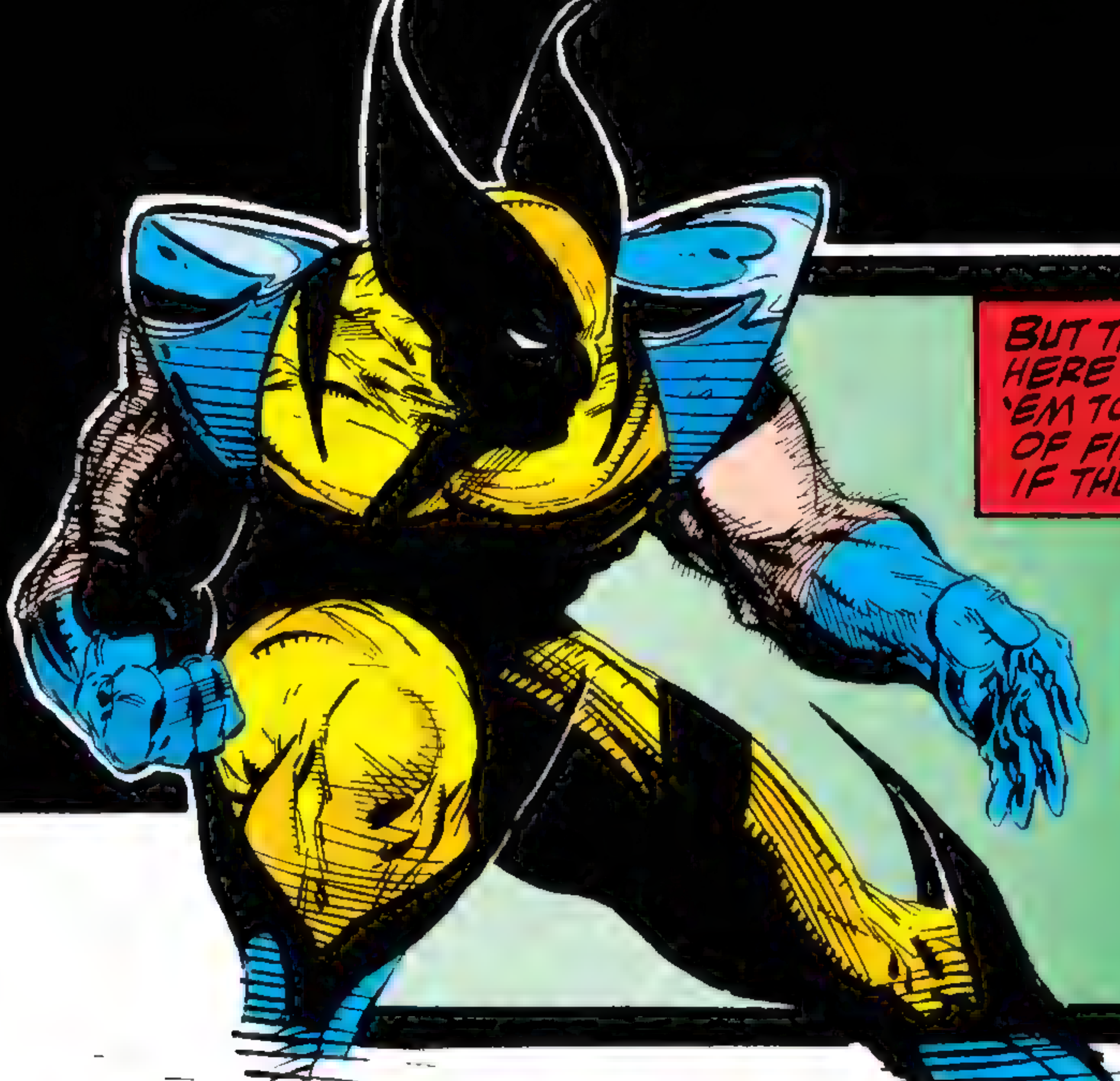
GE **20**

THE BOYS' FAMILIES HAVE BEEN DISCARDED. THE REPORTERS GOT THEIR STORY, NOW IT'S UP TO OTHERS TO PICK UP THE PIECES.

AT LEAST THEY'VE STILL GOT THEIR **BIGFOOT** MYSTERY.

PLUS IT'S KINDA POETIC HOW KRAHN WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY HUNTERS WHO WERE CAUGHT UP IN THE HYSTERIA HE CREATED.





BUT THERE ARE STILL A FEW MORE BODIES OUT HERE IN THE FOREST. LEAST I CAN DO IS TAKE 'EM TO TOWN. GIVE THE PARENTS SOME SENSE OF FINALITY. INSTEAD OF HAVING THEM WONDER IF THEIR BOY WILL EVER RETURN.

IT'LL GIVE 'EM AN ANSWER BUT CRUSH ANY HOPE THEY MIGHT HAVE HAD.

JEEZ, WHAT A MESS.

NICE JOB, PETE. YOU HAVE DEAD BOYS, DEAD ANIMALS, AND A DEAD CHILD MOLESTER.



SEEMS LIKE WE ACHIEVED A LOT.

I'M GETTING TIRED OF THESE OTHER SO-CALLED HERO'S METHODS.



WE HAVE TO FIND WAYS TO SOLVE THESE THINGS BETTER.

WOLVERINE. PUNISHER. GHOST RIDER. THEY'RE STARTING TO MAKE ME AS SICK AS THE VILLAINS.

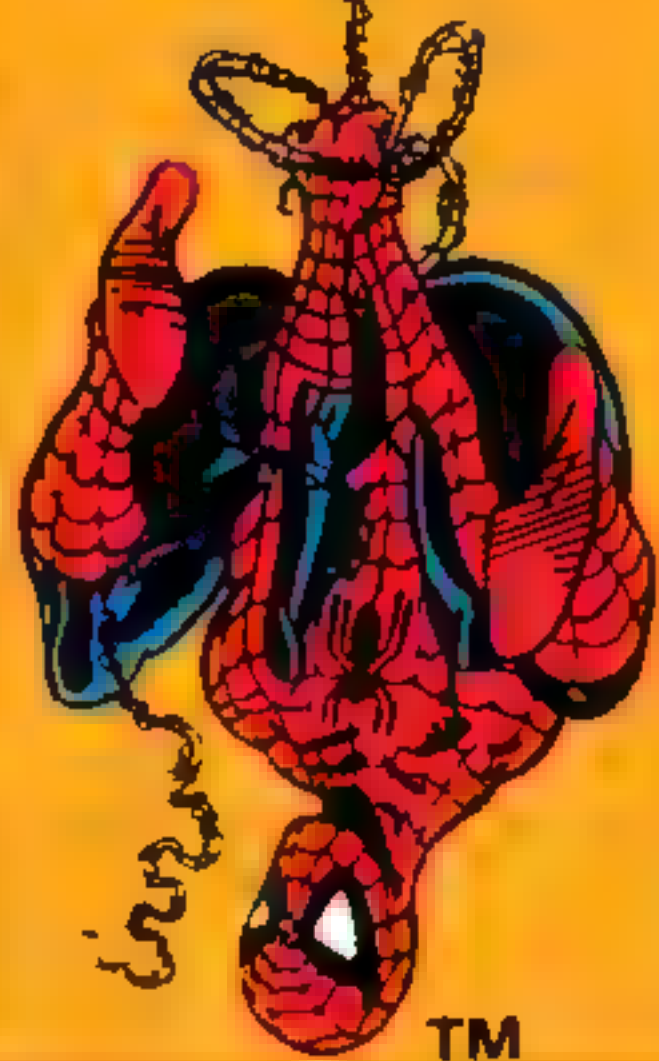


GOD, WHAT'S EVEN SCARIER IS MAYBE THIS IS THE BEST WE CAN DO. HOPE MARY JANE CAN CONVINCE ME OTHERWISE.

NEXT

SPIDEY IS BACK IN BLACK!!

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AUTHORITY

13

TH ALL-NEW COLLECTOR'S ITEM ISSUE!

SPIDER-MAN

THE LEGEND
OF THE
BLACK KNIGHT

"SUB-CITY"
PART ONE OF TWO

McFarlane
71

OMMPF!
Why don't they
make this pipe
bigger?

They never
do nuthin'
to help us.

So we got
to do dis by
myselfs.

Leader needs
another bad one.
Me get it for him...

TODD McFARLANE • ART
• STORY
• LETTERS

--- then me and
friends can get
food.

And me
hungry.

CLANK

Oh good!
There be one
already.

Time for
a surprise.

GREG WRIGHT • JIM SALICRUP • TOM DEFALCO
COLORS EDITS ?

Stan
Lee
PRESENTS:

THE TIRED OLD BUM HAS
FINALLY GOTTEN TO SLEEP.
HERE IN THE BLEAK BACK
ALLEYS OF NEW YORK,
A SMALL PIECE OF DIRT
HAS BEEN TURNED INTO
A TEMPORARY HAVEN.

UH?
WHOZZAT?!

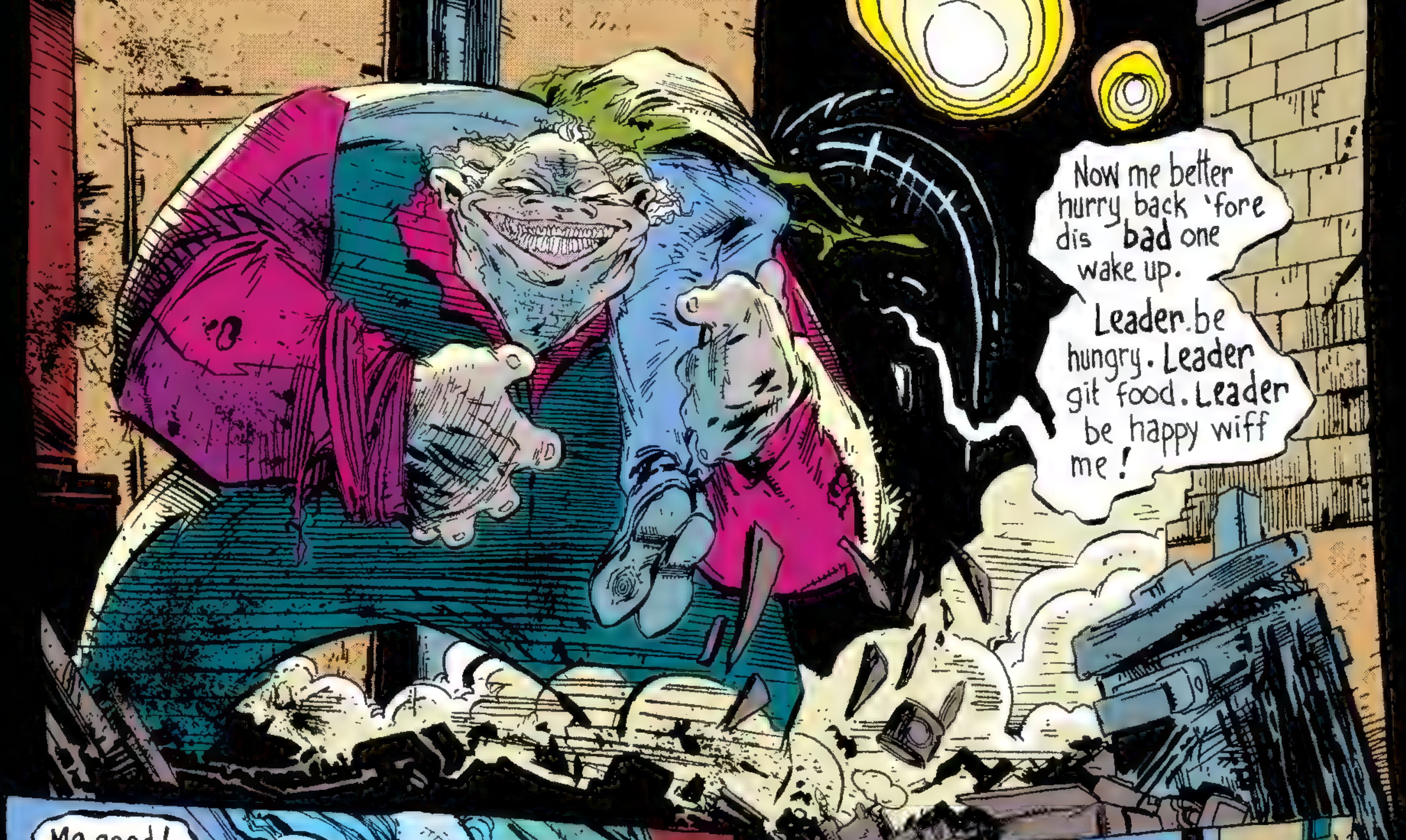
SHUD UP,
OL' MAN!

LOUD NOISES WAKE HIM.
HE CAN'T FOCUS UPON
WHAT WOKE HIM-- NOR
WILL HE EVER BE
GIVEN THE CHANCE.

OH-OH! I maybe
hit it too hard!

City Part 1

I forget
how soft the
bad ones
can be.



Now me better
hurry back 'fore
dis bad one
wake up.

Leader be
hungry. Leader
git food. Leader
be happy wiff
me!



Me good!

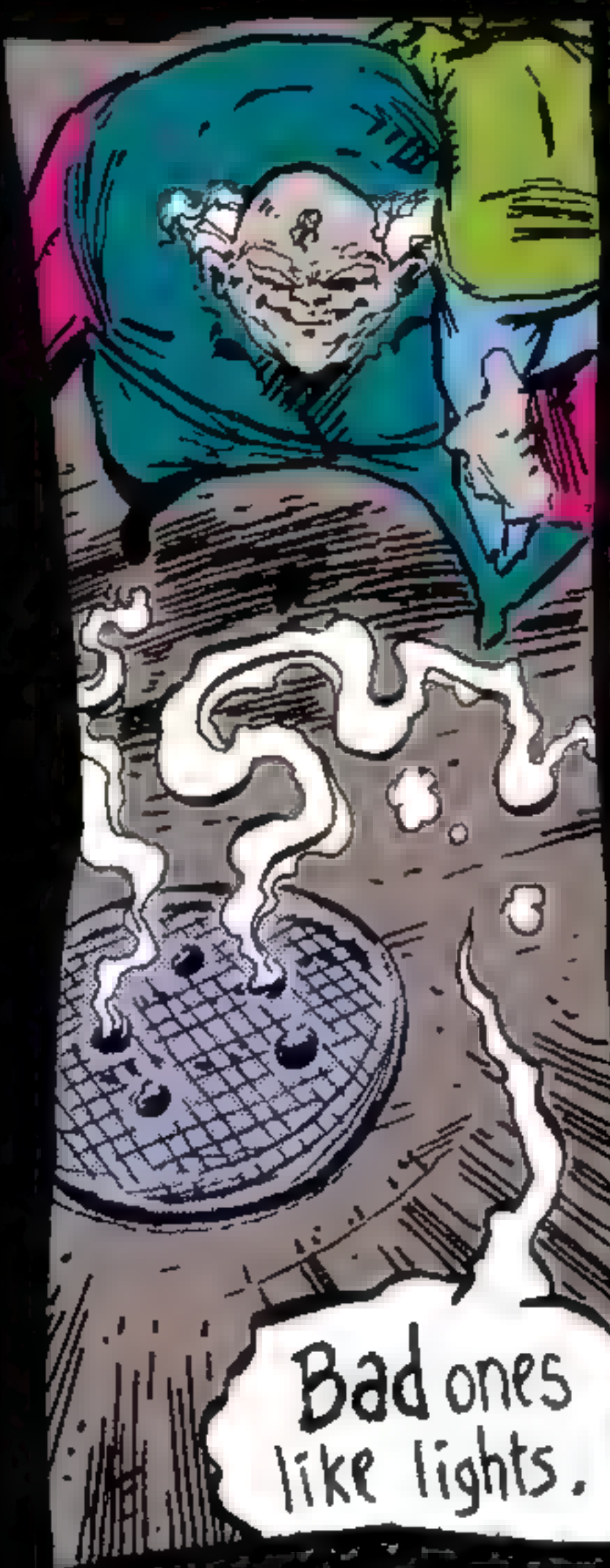
good.
good.
good.



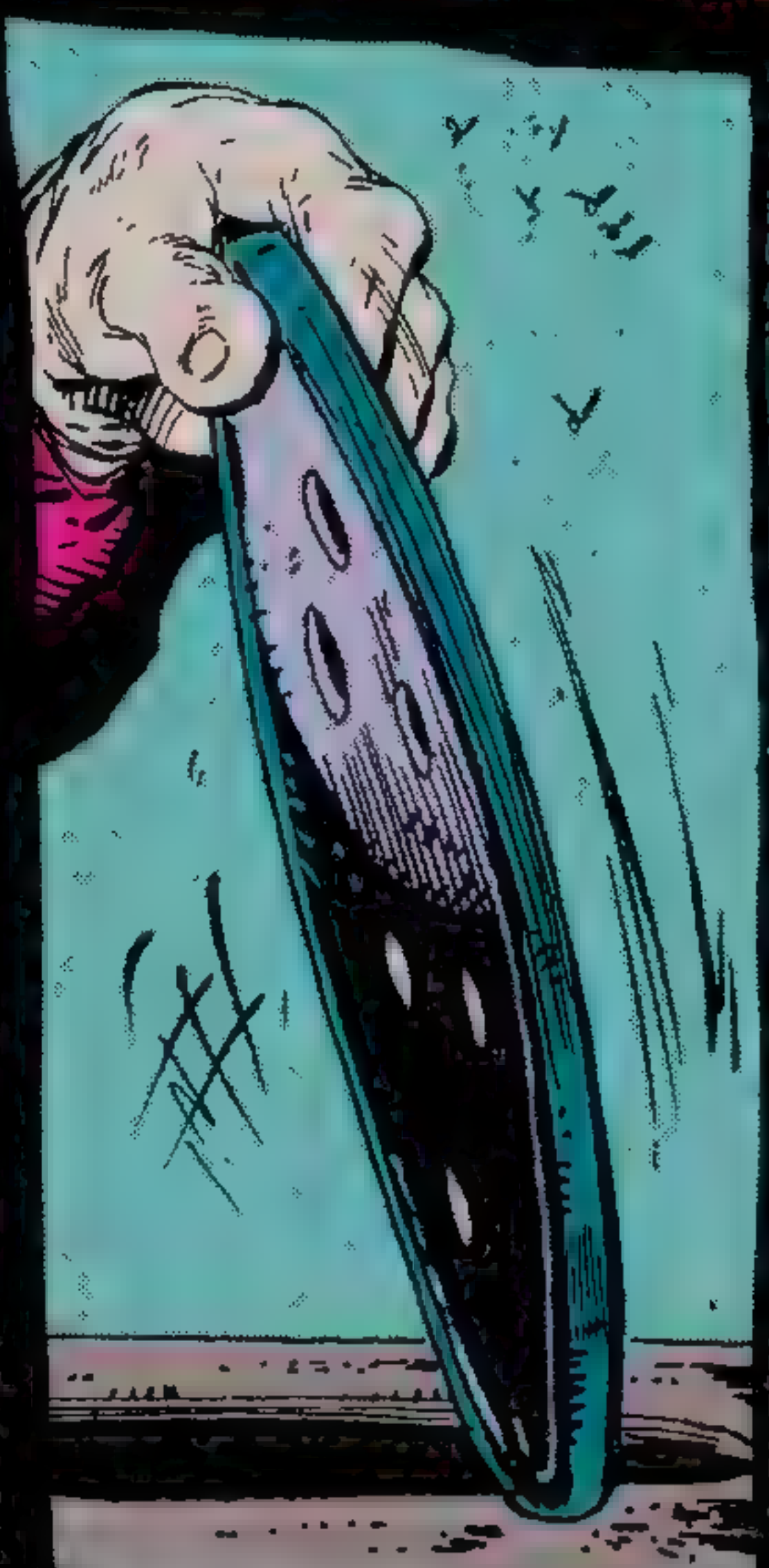
Tomorrow
me find another
bad one.

Maybe one
not so
soft!

But me must
go. Lights
start to make
eyes hurt.

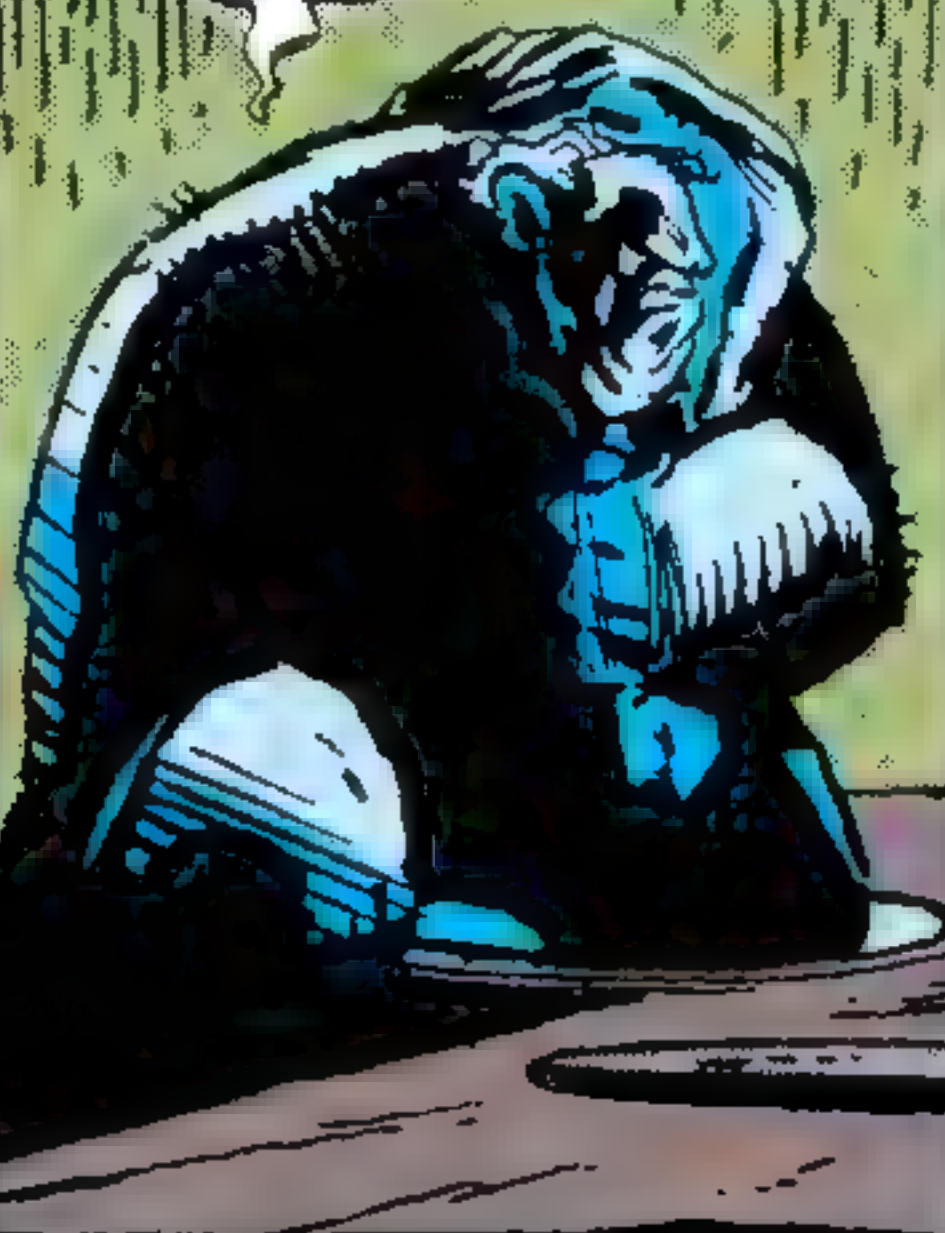


Bad ones
like lights.



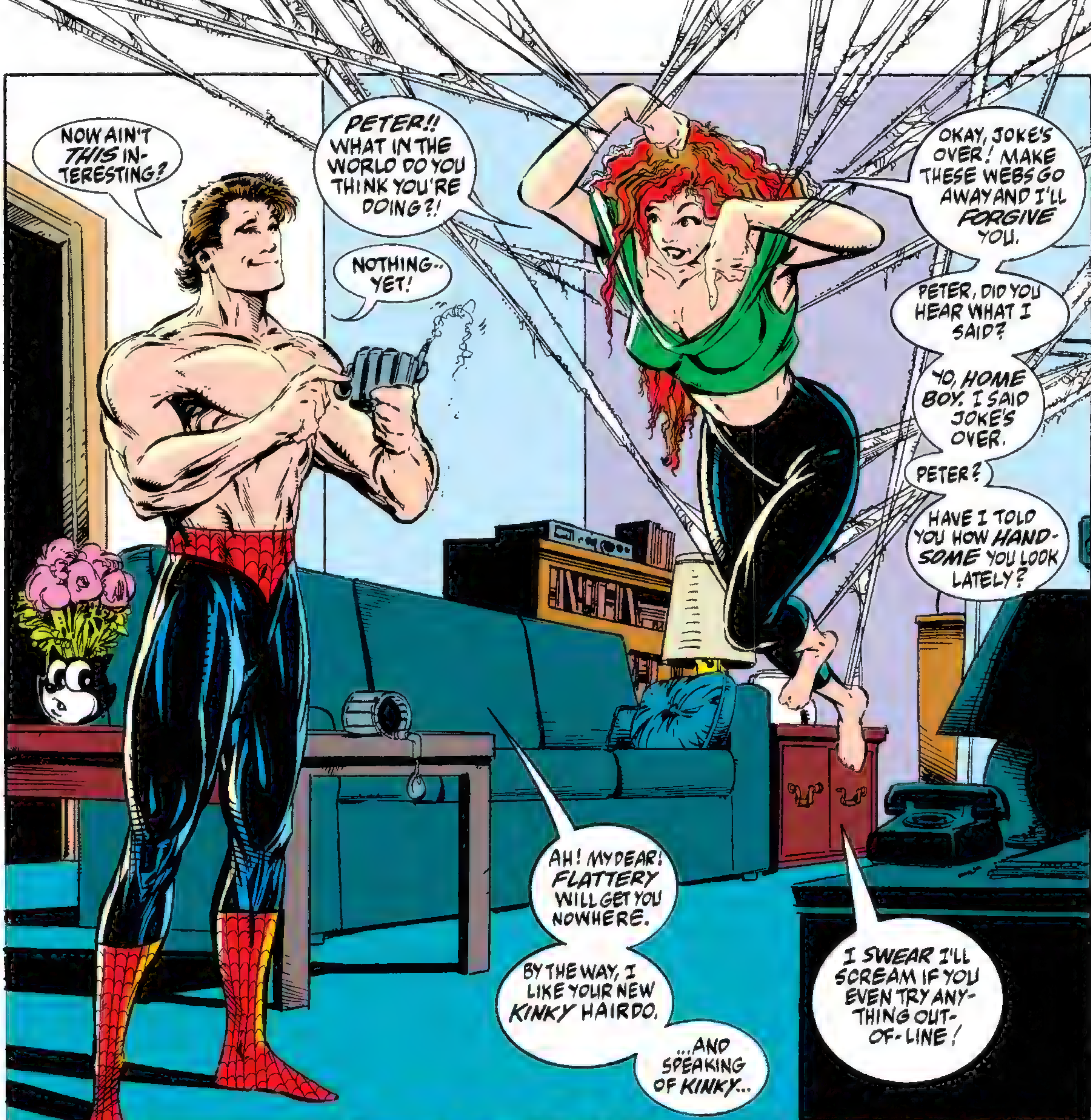
Not me and
my good friends.
no way.

Bye-bye bad
peoples!



Ooo
h
ya!!

Dis
is
better.



NOW AIN'T
THIS IN-
TERESTING?

PETER!!
WHAT IN THE
WORLD DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
DOING?!

NOTHING..
YET!

OKAY, JOKE'S
OVER! MAKE
THESE WEBS GO
AWAY AND I'LL
FORGIVE
YOU.

PETER, DID YOU
HEAR WHAT I
SAID?

YO, HOME
BOY. I SAID
JOKE'S
OVER.

PETER?

HAVE I TOLD
YOU HOW **HAND-
SOME** YOU LOOK
LATELY?

AH! MY DEAR!
FLATTERY
WILL GET YOU
NOWHERE.

BY THE WAY, I
LIKE YOUR NEW
KINKY HAIRDO.

...AND
SPEAKING
OF **KINKY**...

I SWEAR I'LL
SCREAM IF YOU
EVEN TRY ANY-
THING OUT-
OF-LINE!



♥ mwa! mwa! ♥
mwa, mwa, mwa,
DON'T
MATTER, 'CAUSE
HARRY AND LIZ
ARE OUT
TONIGHT--
mwa, mwa,
mwa, mwa,
mwa!!

BESIDES, YOU
ONLY HAVE TO PUT UP
WITH IT FOR AN
HOUR.



THAT'S
HOW LONG IT
TAKES THE WEBS
TO DISSOLVE.
IN THE
MEAN-
TIME, I
KNOW
WHERE
YOU'RE MOST
SENSITIVE!

NOT THERE, PETER!
PLEASE, NOT THERE!

THE NEXT MORNING PETER SWINGS ACROSS TOWN TO THE DAILY BUGLE, HOPING TO LATCH ON TO A FEW PHOTO ASSIGNMENTS AND TALK TO A FEW FRIENDS ABOUT WORK.



HE HAS ONE FAVORITE AMONG THEM!

JONAH, THIS IS WEIRD! ALL THOSE GUYS KIDNAPPED IN THE SAME FOUR BLOCK AREA. THE OTHER BUMS ARE AFRAID FOR THEMSELVES. ONE OF 'EM TOLD ME THAT...

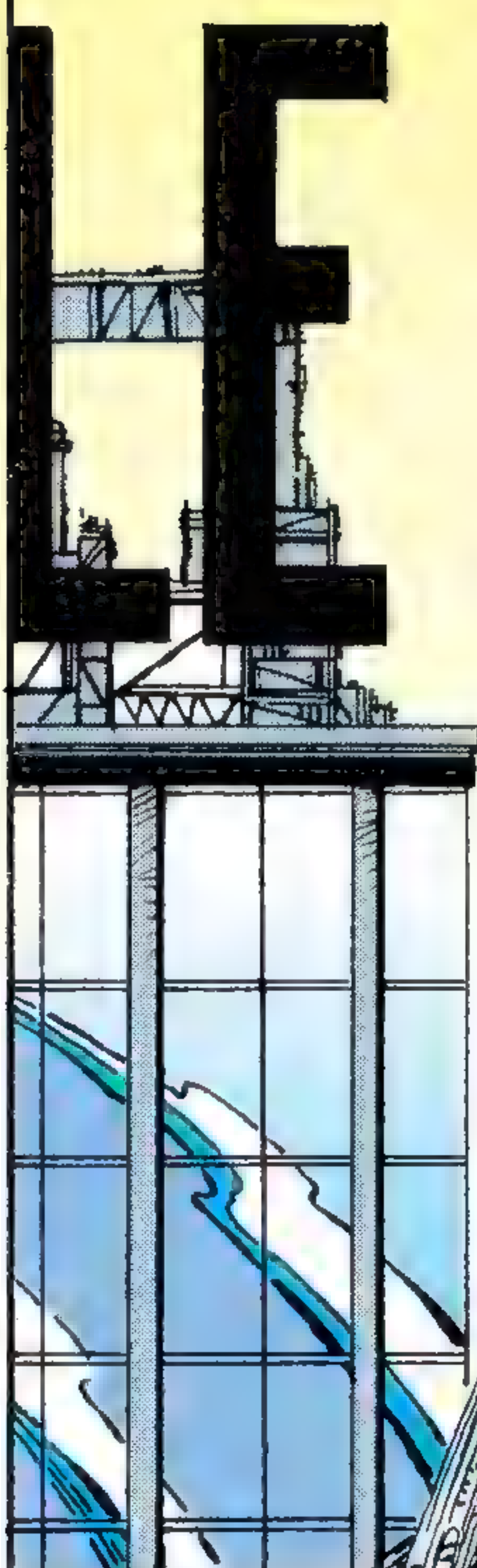
I DON'T CARE ABOUT BUMS! I WANT REAL STORIES!

sniff sniff
I THINK I SMELL JONAH ALREADY!

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND!

YOU FIND ME A MURDER DISASTER OR SEX TRIANGLE!

THAT I'LL PRINT!





YO, CARL!
WHAT'S UP?

I TELL YOU
THIS JOB GETS
HARDER AND
HARDER EVERY
DAY.
THINK I'M
CONCERNED ABOUT
SOME BLOODY BUMS.

I COULDN'T HELP BUT
OVERHEAR HIS LORD-
SHIP RIP YOUR HEAD OFF,
BUT YOUR STORY
SOUNDS LIKE IT
HAS POTENTIAL.

BESIDES,
I'M LOOKING
FOR WORK.

I'VE BEEN
IN CONTACT WITH A
FEW HOMELESS THAT
LIVE BEHIND THE PORT
AUTHORITY BUS
DEPOT.



NOW I
KNOW THEY'RE NOT
THE MOST RELIABLE
SOURCES, BUT A COUPLE OF
THEM WERE TELLING
ME ABOUT THEIR
FRIENDS.

THEY SAY THAT
FIVE OF THEM HAVE
DISAPPEARED. NOT
LEFT. SAY THEY'VE
BEEN KIDNAPPED!



THEY AREN'T SAYING
THEY LEFT, PETER,
THE INFO I'VE GOT
SAYS THEY WERE
BODILY REMOVED.

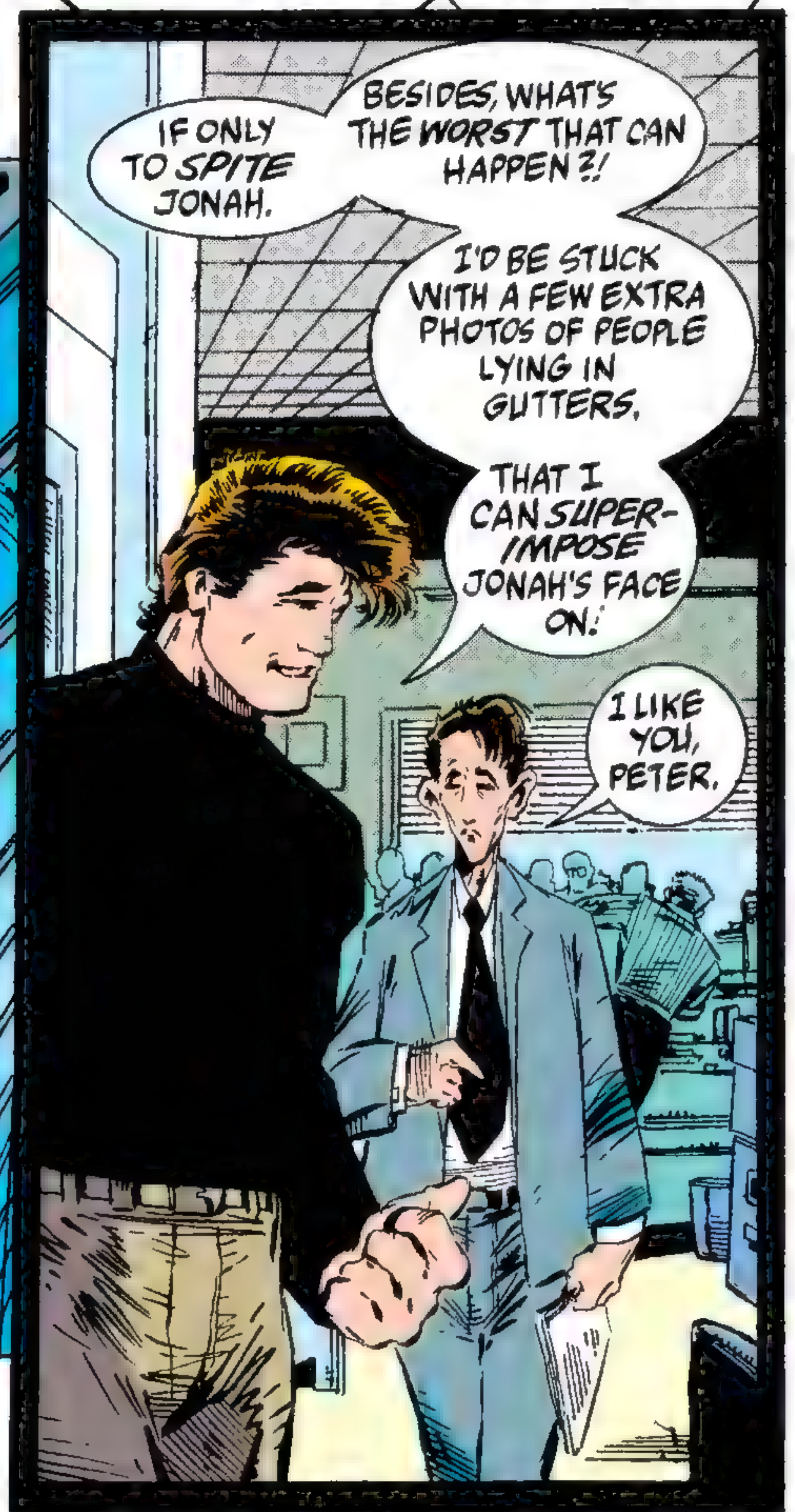
ALL FROM
THE SAME
FIVE BLOCK
AREA.

TROUBLE IS,
I CAN'T SELL
THE STORY
AND JONAH
DOESN'T
WANT ME TO
PURSUE IT
FURTHER.

BUT, IF
WE COULD
GET A FEW
PICS--!



CARL,
LET'S DO
IT.



IF ONLY
TO SPITE
JONAH.

BESIDES, WHAT'S
THE WORST THAT CAN
HAPPEN?!

I'D BE STUCK
WITH A FEW EXTRA
PHOTOS OF PEOPLE
LYING IN
GUTTERS.

THAT I
CAN SUPER-
IMPOSE
JONAH'S FACE
ON!

I LIKE
YOU,
PETER.



num,num,num,
num,num...

GOD, I
LOVE THE
CHOCOLATE
ONES!!

MAYBE
I SHOULD
THINKABOUT
DOING A
COMMERCIAL
FOR THEM.

EVEN IF THIS ISN'T
HEADLINE NEWS, SOMETHING
STRANGE IS DEFINITELY GOING
ON. AND I DOUBT THAT ANY-
ONE REALLY CARES MUCH
ABOUT THE HOMELESS
TO DO ANYTHING.

SO
"PUSHOVER"
PARKER
LETS GUILT
GET THE BETTER
PART OF HIM
AGAIN.



BUT--
SINCE
THERE IS
A LULL IN
THE ACTION--

--IT'S TIME TO MAKE
ANOTHER DECISION. WILL IT
BE THE RATHER SWEET LOOKING
CARAMEL, THE EVER-TEMPTING APPLE-
CINNAMON, THE SIMPLE, YET WELL-
STATED VANILLA, OR--

--YA KNOW
I'VE GOT TO
BREAK THIS
BAD HABIT
OF TALKING
TO MYSELF



IF PAULA AND
M.C. CAN DO ONE,
WHY NOT LOVEABLE
LITTLE OL' ME?!

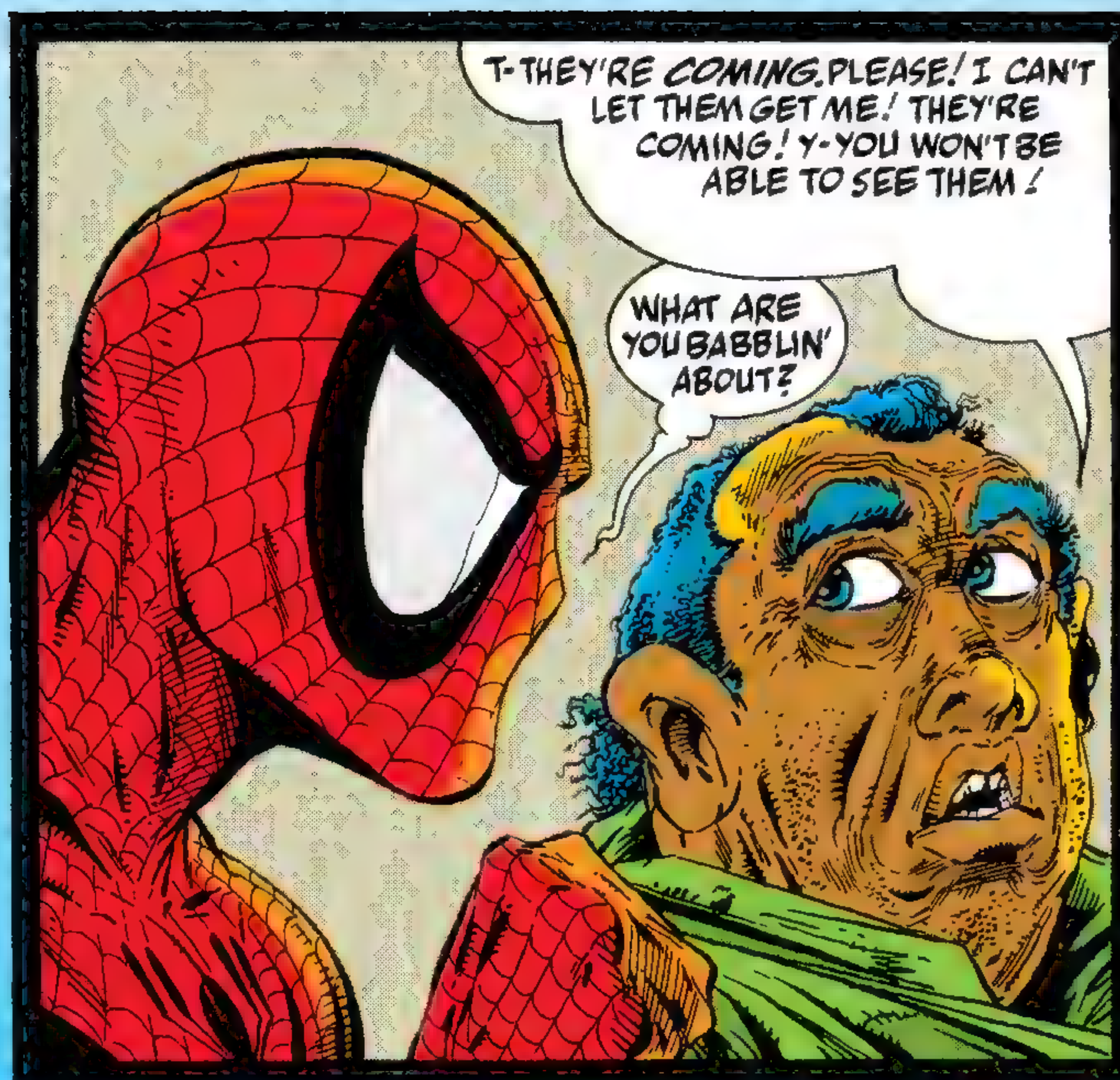
IT'D SURE BE A
HECK OF A LOT FUNNER
THAN HANGIN' OUT AT THIS
ALLEYWAY. CARL SAID THIS
WAS THE AREA WHERE
THE BUMS
DISAPPEARED.

SO A BIT OF
SURVEILLANCE
JUST MIGHT PAY
OFF--



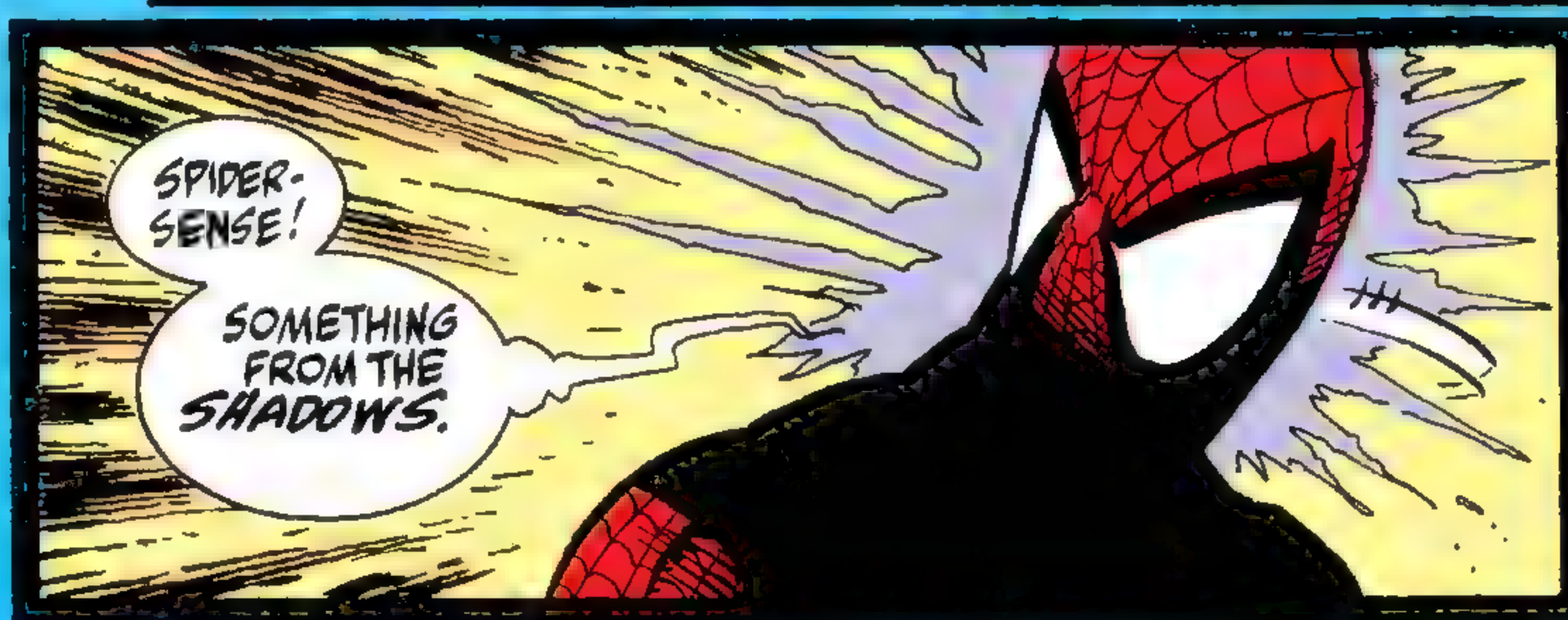
HUH?!

HELP!
SOME-
ONE
HELP
ME!



T-THEY'RE COMING. PLEASE! I CAN'T LET THEM GET ME! THEY'RE COMING! Y-YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE THEM!

WHAT ARE YOU BABBLIN' ABOUT?



SPIDER-SENSE!

SOMETHING FROM THE SHADOWS.



HEY, BUDDY!

SLOW DOWN, MAN. WHAT'S THE RUSH?

YOU JUST RUINED MY LUNCH.

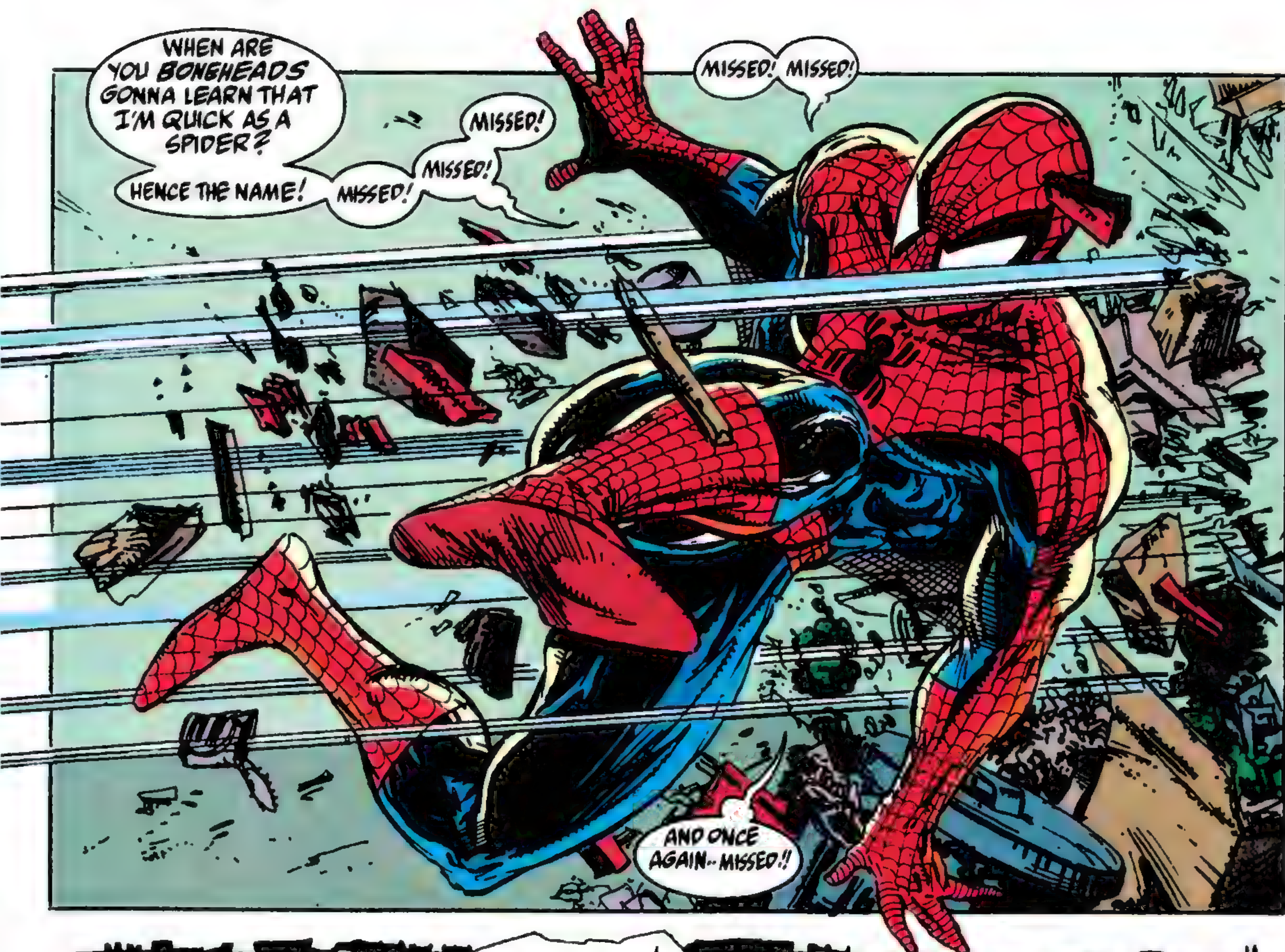


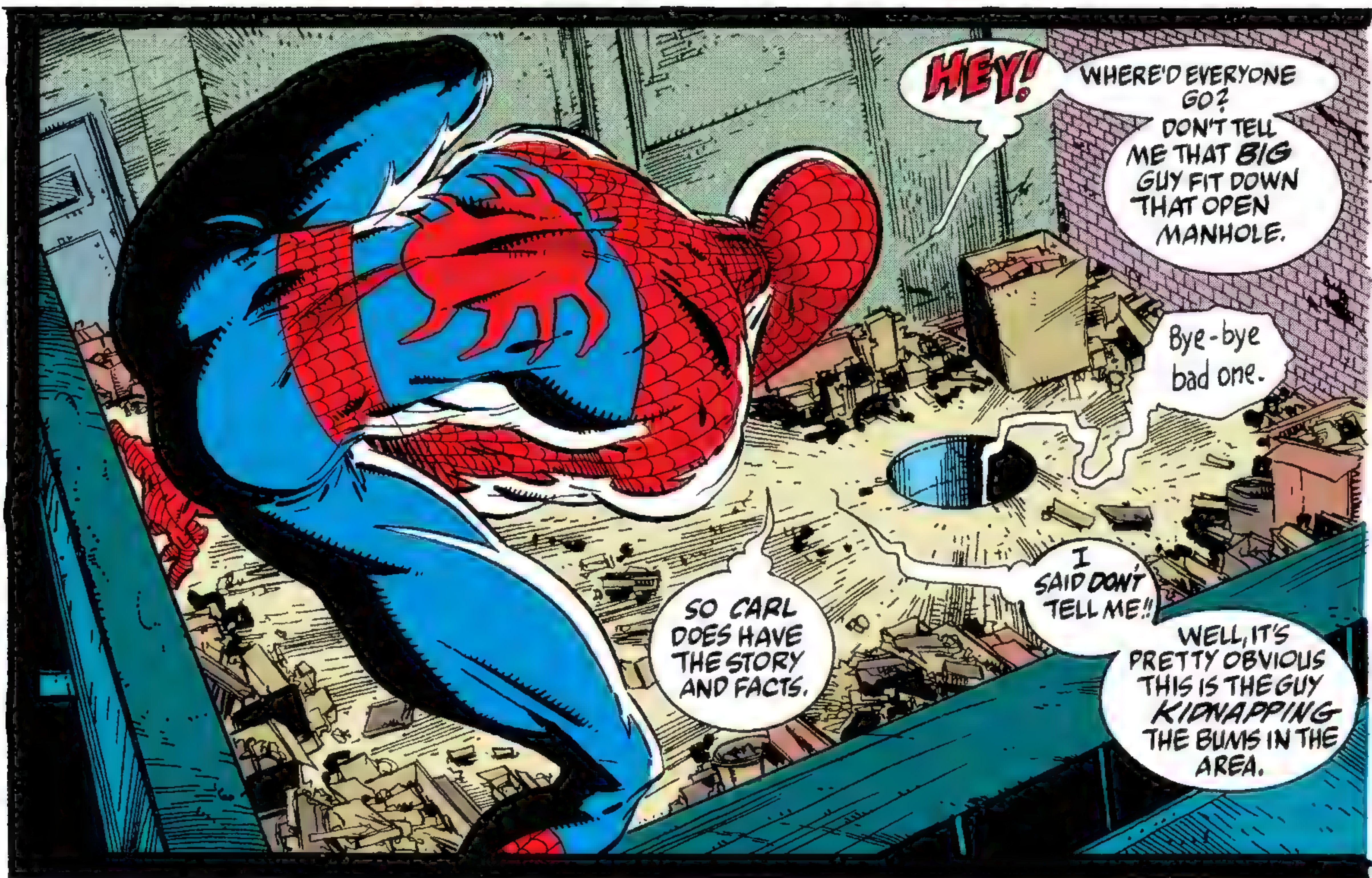
WHOA!

GARBAGE!

SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO BEAT ME UP WITH TRASH.

DO THESE GUYS LIVE ON A DIET OF IDIOT PILLS--OR WHAT?!





HEY!

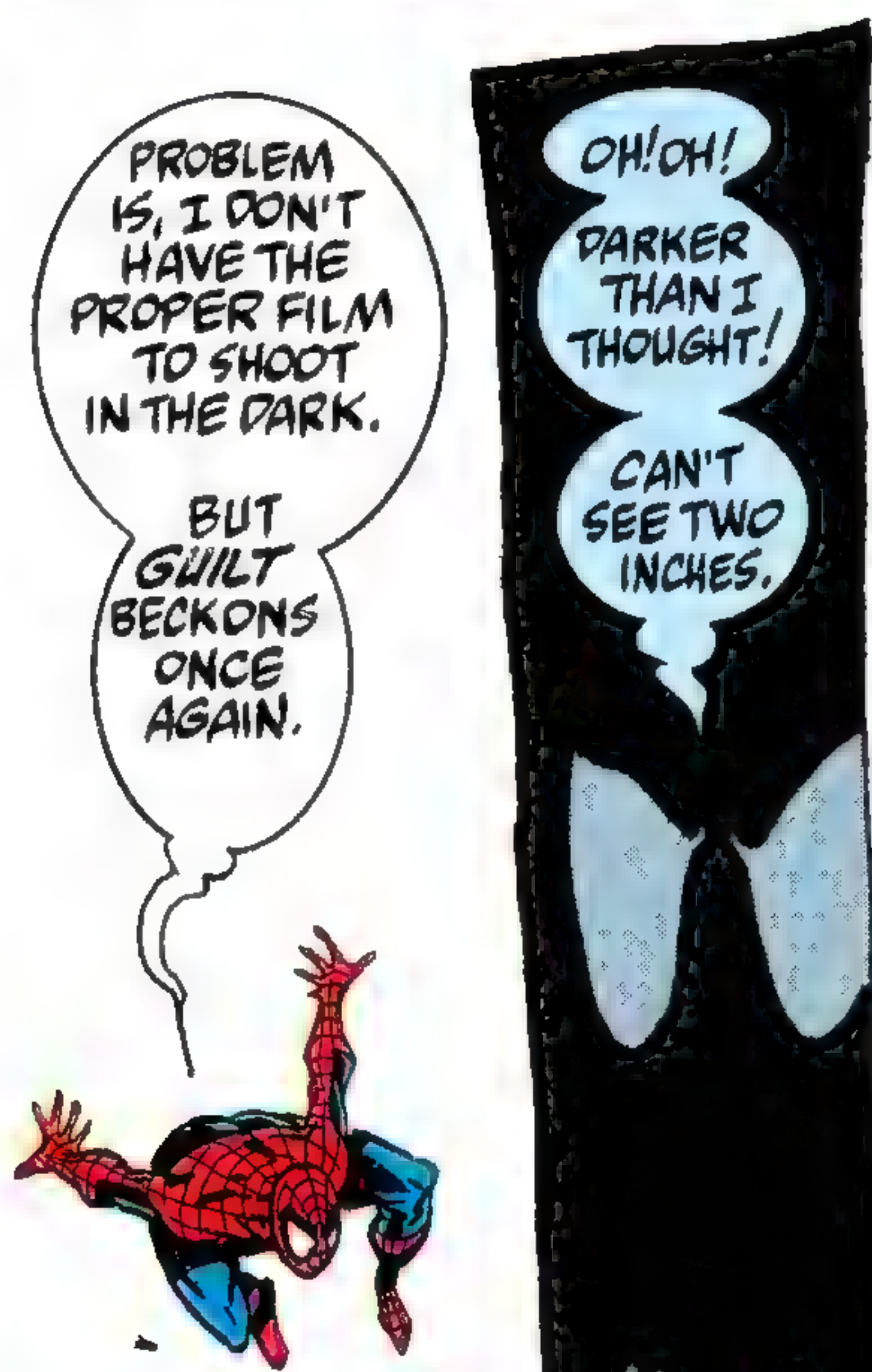
WHERE'D EVERYONE GO?
DON'T TELL ME THAT BIG GUY FIT DOWN THAT OPEN MANHOLE.

Bye-bye bad one.

SO CARL DOES HAVE THE STORY AND FACTS.

I SAID DON'T TELL ME!!

WELL, IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS THIS IS THE GUY KIDNAPPING THE BUMS IN THE AREA.

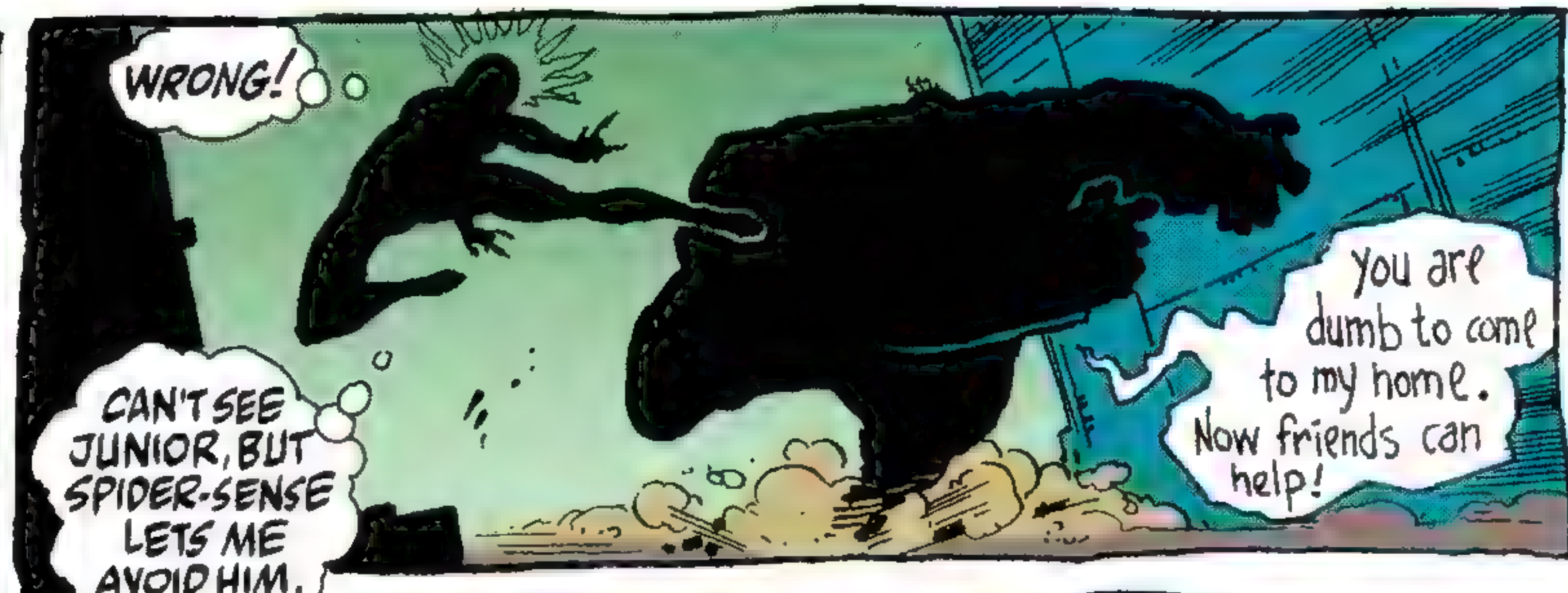


PROBLEM IS, I DON'T HAVE THE PROPER FILM TO SHOOT IN THE DARK.

BUT GUILT BECKONS ONCE AGAIN.

OH/OH! DARKER THAN I THOUGHT!

CAN'T SEE TWO INCHES.



WRONG!

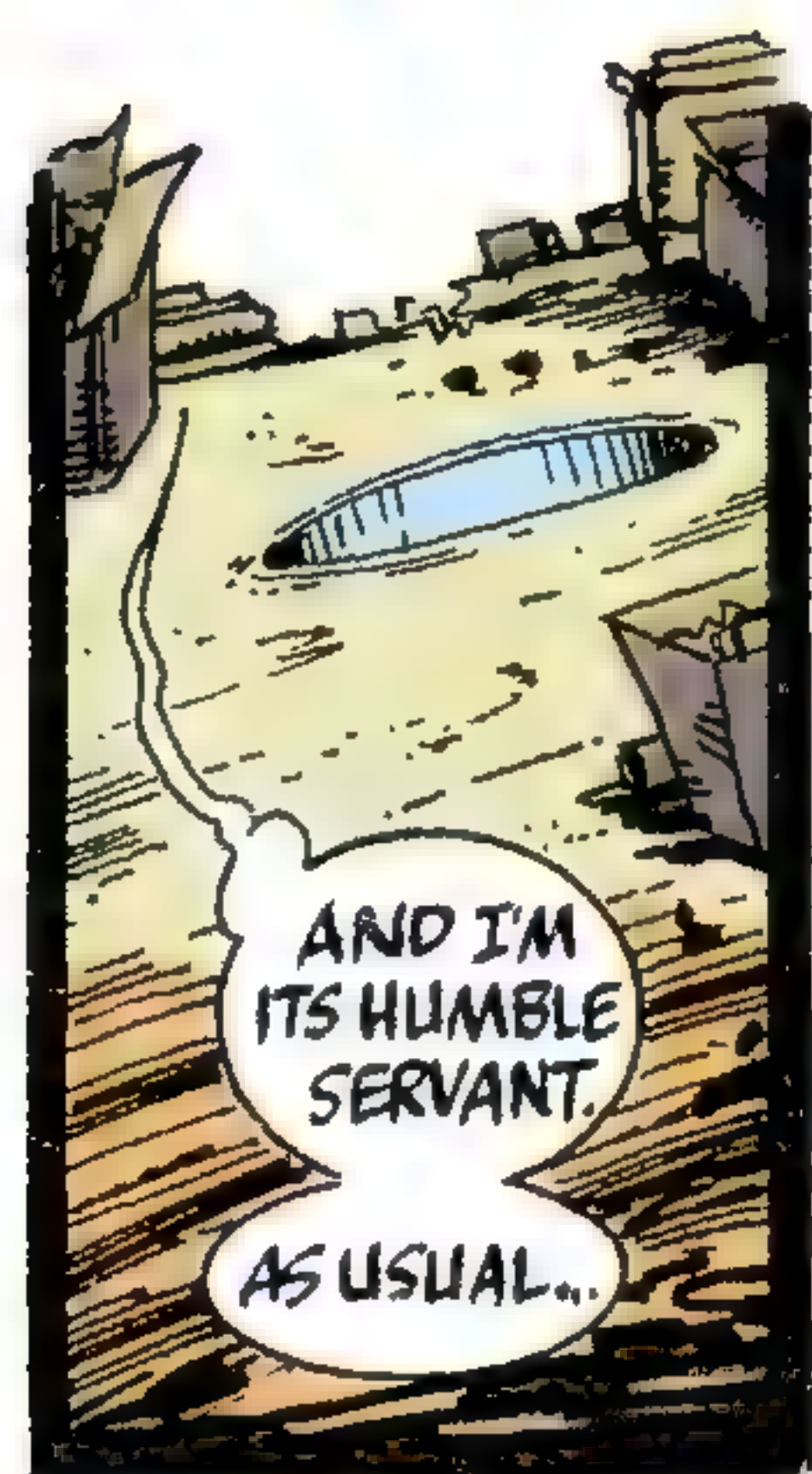
CAN'T SEE JUNIOR, BUT SPIDER-SENSE LETS ME AVOID HIM.

you are dumb to come to my home. Now friends can help!



FRIENDS?! JUST WHAT I NEED!

git the man-bug.



AND I'M ITS HUMBLE SERVANT.

AS USUAL...



MAYBE THIS WASN'T SUCH A GREAT IDEA. UH?! SOUNDS LIKE THE SUBWAY TRAIN COMING.



IF I CAN'T SEE--

--I CAN'T HIT S000000!



I'M OUTTA HERE!

I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR REASONS, YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL!

VENOM HURT ME. HURT ME BAD! I DON'T BOTHER YOU WITH THAT BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT YOUR OWN PROBLEMS, BUT THE SIGHT OF SEEING YOU IN THAT BLACK COSTUME AGAIN WOULD BE TOO MUCH.

I DON'T ASK FOR MANY THINGS, PETER, I KNEW WHAT I WAS GETTING INTO WHEN WE GOT MARRIED--

--BUT THIS IS ONE TIME I CAN'T FORGET MY FEELINGS!

M.J., PLEASE! I'M NOT TRYING TO PUSH THIS ON YOU!

THEN WHAT DO YOU CALL IT?

PETER, NO!

NO!

NO!

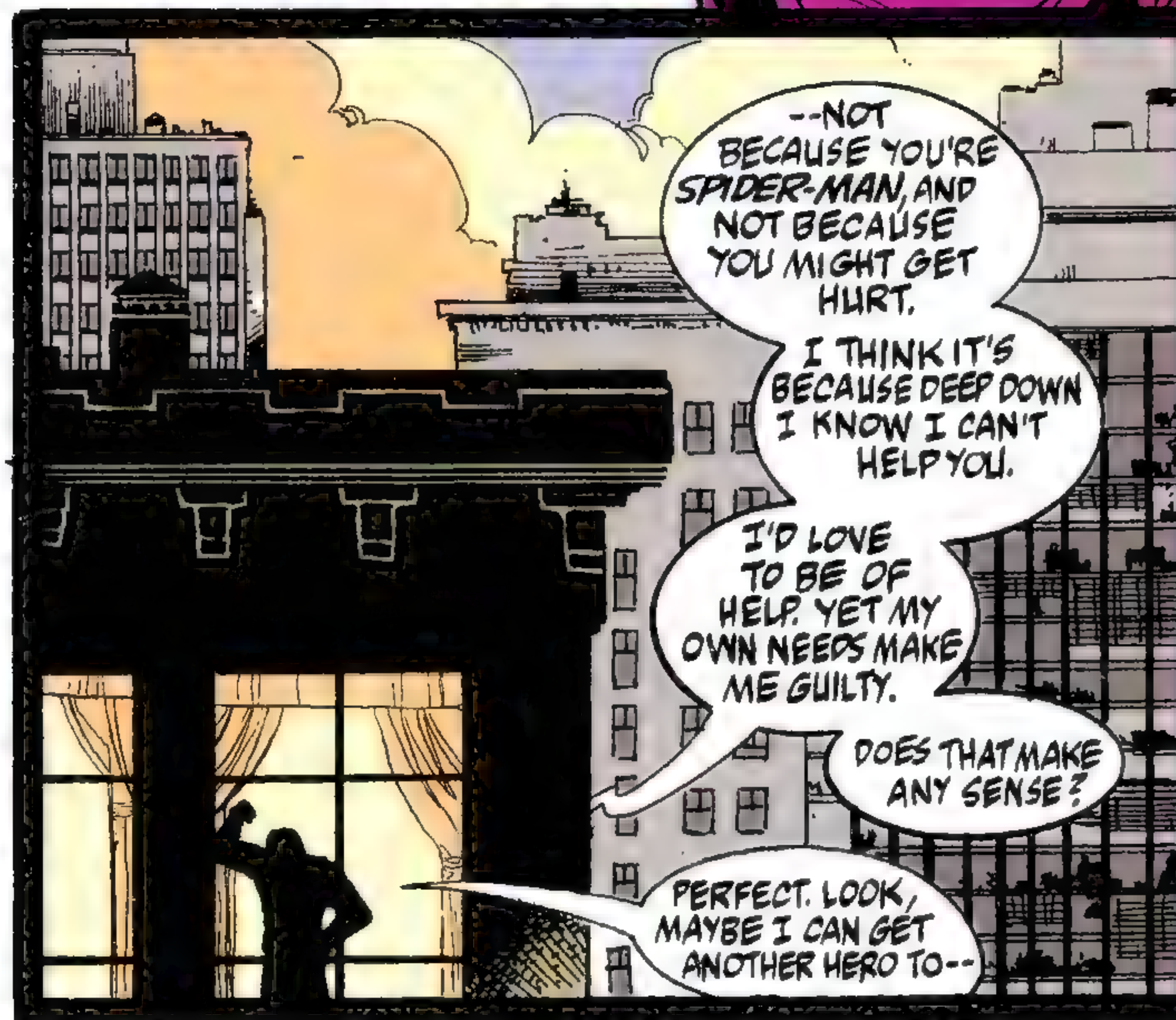
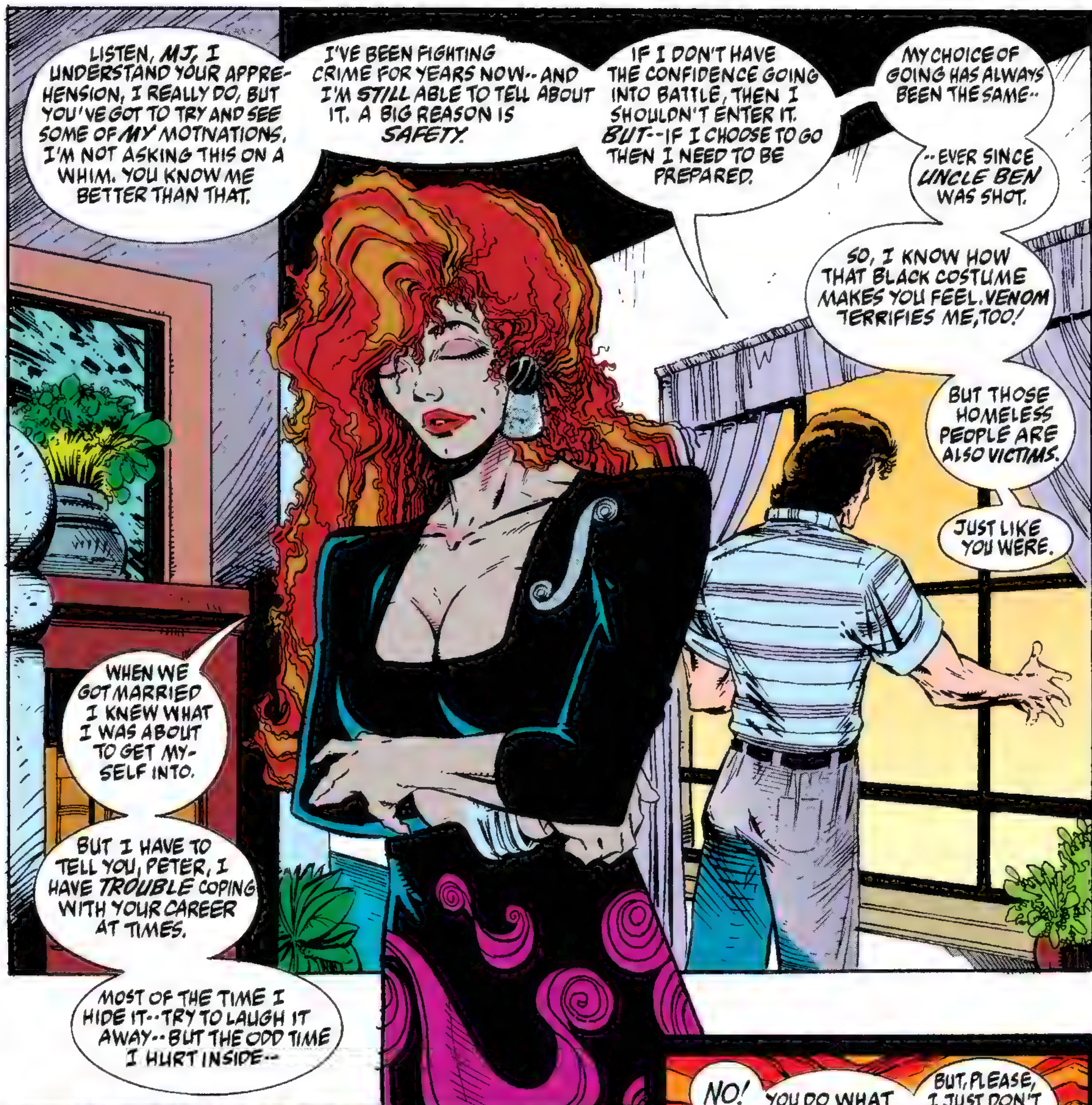
NO!

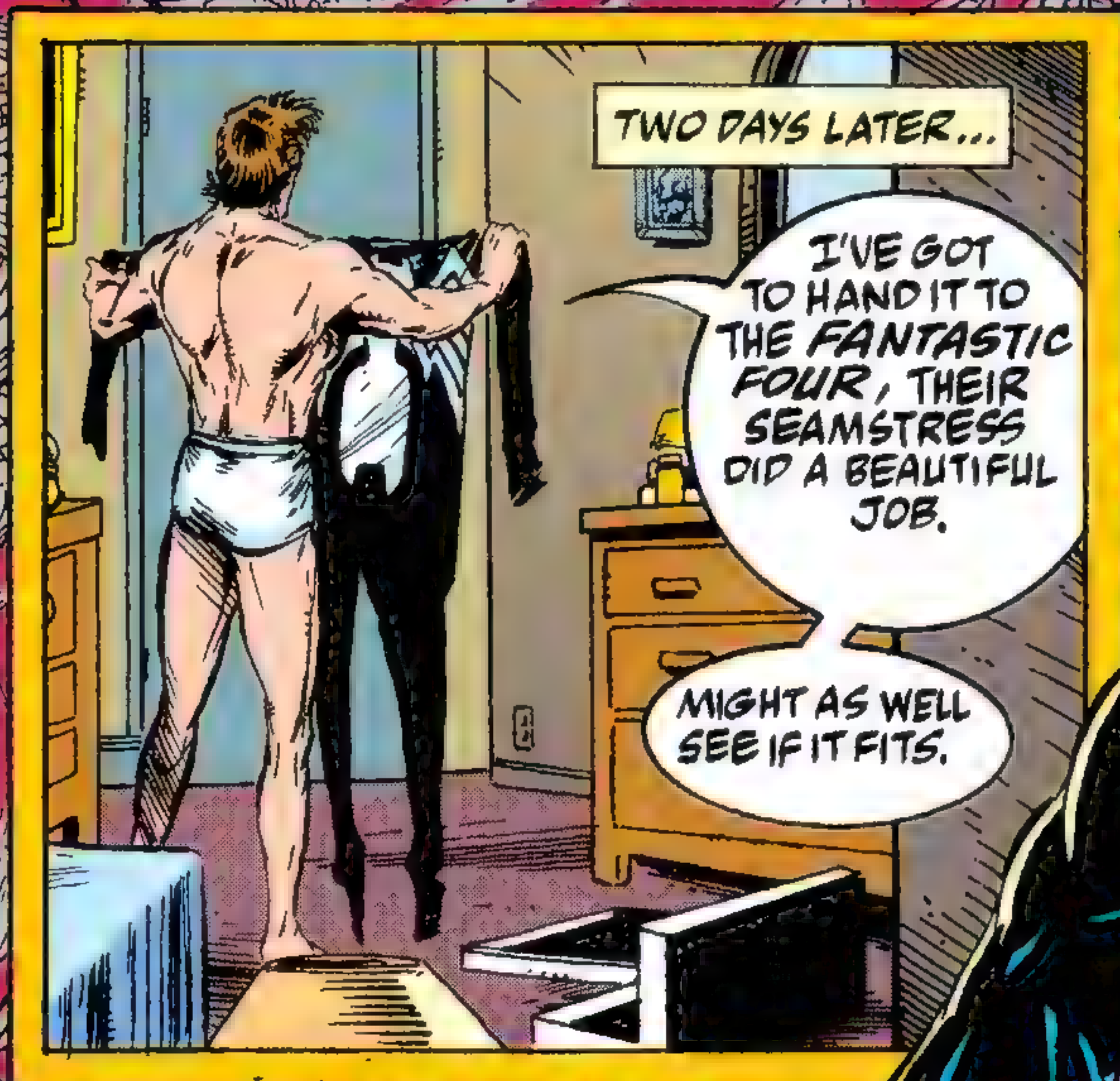
REALITY.

LISTEN, SWEET, I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT, BUT I'VE BEEN SPIDEY FOR A WHILE NOW--

-- AND I KNOW WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN. THESE UNDERGROUND FOLKS SEE MY COSTUME LIKE A BEACON. I NEED TO PROTECT MYSELF.

MORE IMPORTANT, I NEED TO FIND THE BUMS THAT ARE MISSING!

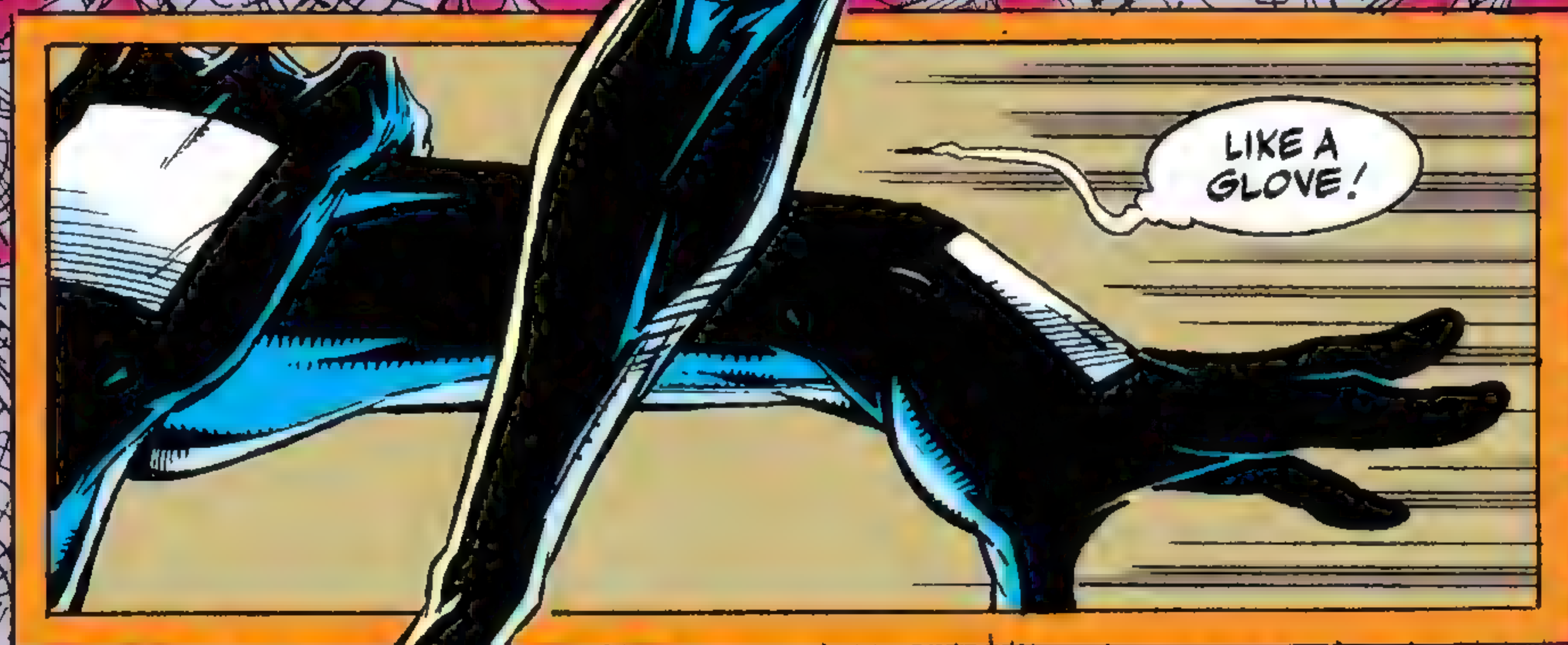




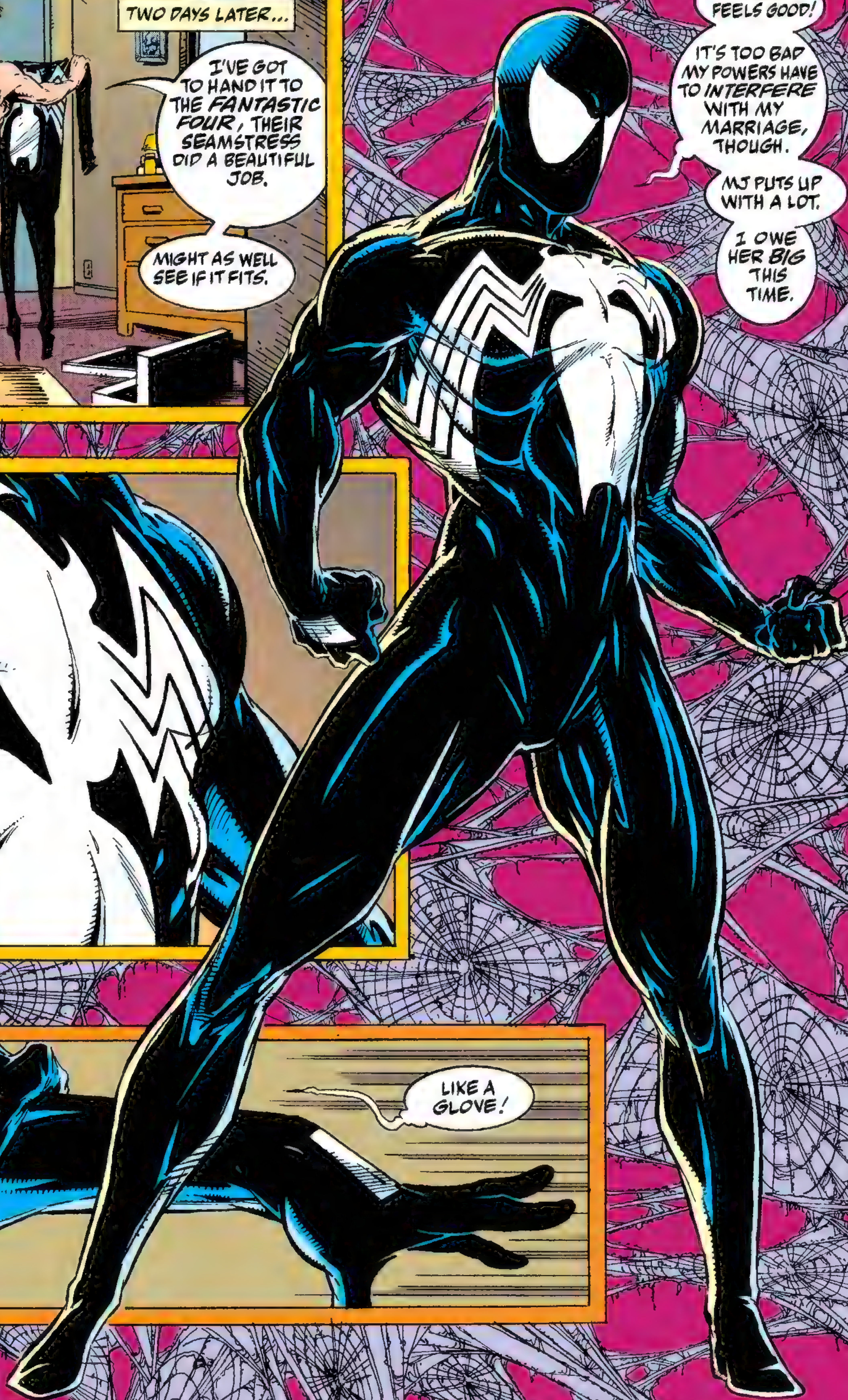
TWO DAYS LATER...

I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO THE FANTASTIC FOUR, THEIR SEAMSTRESS DID A BEAUTIFUL JOB.

MIGHT AS WELL SEE IF IT FITS.



LIKE A GLOVE!



KINDA FEELS GOOD!

IT'S TOO BAD MY POWERS HAVE TO INTERFERE WITH MY MARRIAGE, THOUGH.

MJ PUTS UP WITH A LOT.

I OWE HER BIG THIS TIME.

NEW YORK. THAT
SAME NIGHT.

ANOTHER HOMELESS
BUM HAS BEEN SNATCHED
TO THE DARKNESS
BELOW.



♪ Me am
good.

me am
♪ good.

♪ me am
got a bad
one.

This one be
not as soft
as last one.
Took four
hits to
put down.



But he was
still mad that
him I picked.

It's 'cause I
♥ WUV ♥ you
bad one --

-- no, not
really.



HA-HA-HA!
me am so
funny!



me almost
home now.

you
stay here
bad one,

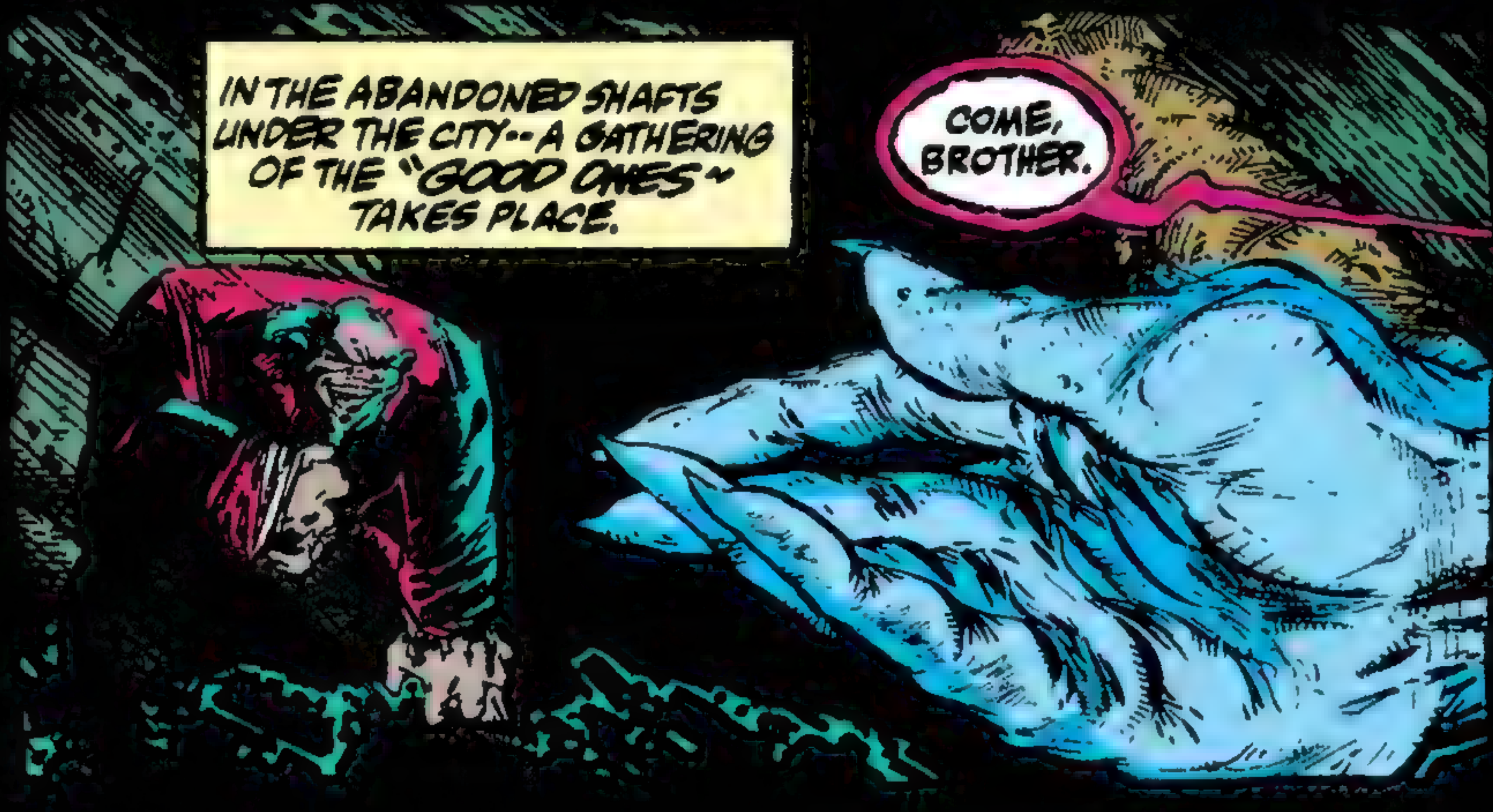
Time for me to
tell leader you am
here. He soon
be hungry.

me
too!



IN THE ABANDONED SHAFTS
UNDER THE CITY-- A GATHERING
OF THE "GOOD ONES"
TAKES PLACE.

COME,
BROTHER.



A comic book panel featuring Morbius and his allies. Morbius, with his signature blue and black suit and long, flowing black hair, is the central figure, looking intensely at the viewer with red eyes. To his left, a man with a large, pointed, horn-like headpiece and a yellow face looks on. Behind Morbius, a woman with long, wavy blonde hair is visible. In the bottom right corner, a man with long, wavy blonde hair and a blue robe looks up with a surprised expression. The background is a dark, rocky landscape with a large, jagged rock formation. The overall color palette is dominated by reds, blues, and blacks, with some yellow and white highlights.

ONCE AGAIN, MY DEAR
FRIENDS, YOU HUMBLE ME.
IN THE FEW WEEKS I'VE BEEN
WITH YOU. YOUR WANTING
TO PLEASE ME--

--HAS BEEN MOST
EVIDENT TO CALL ME
YOUR LEADER SHOWS
A SIDE OF YOU THAT
THOSE ABOVE WILL
RARELY UNDERSTAND.

AND I PROMISE
YOU THAT YOUR
LOYALTY WILL NOT
GO UNREWARDED!

I HAVE FELT YOUR TORMENT
AND BEEN REJECTED BY OTHERS.
WE ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT...
YOU AND I, BOTH OF US HAVE
BEEN DISREGARDED
BY SOCIETY.

I, MORBIUS,
WILL NOT FORGET YOU!



YOU KNOW THAT
I DRINK BLOOD
TO SURVIVE.

SOMETIMES, MY GUILT
AND SELF-LOATHING BECOME
ALMOST UNENDURABLE. I--A
PHYSICIAN WHO ONCE
SAVED LIVES, NOW FORCED
TO TAKE THEM.

YOU AT LEAST
HAVE SPARED ME
THE AGONY OF
CHOOSING THOSE
WHO WILL DIE SO
THAT I MUST LIVE.

--IN RETURN, I PROTECT YOU
FROM THOSE WHO WOULD PREY
UPON YOU. BITTER IRONY, INDEED
I COULD ALMOST LAUGH, BUT
IF I DID, I FEAR--

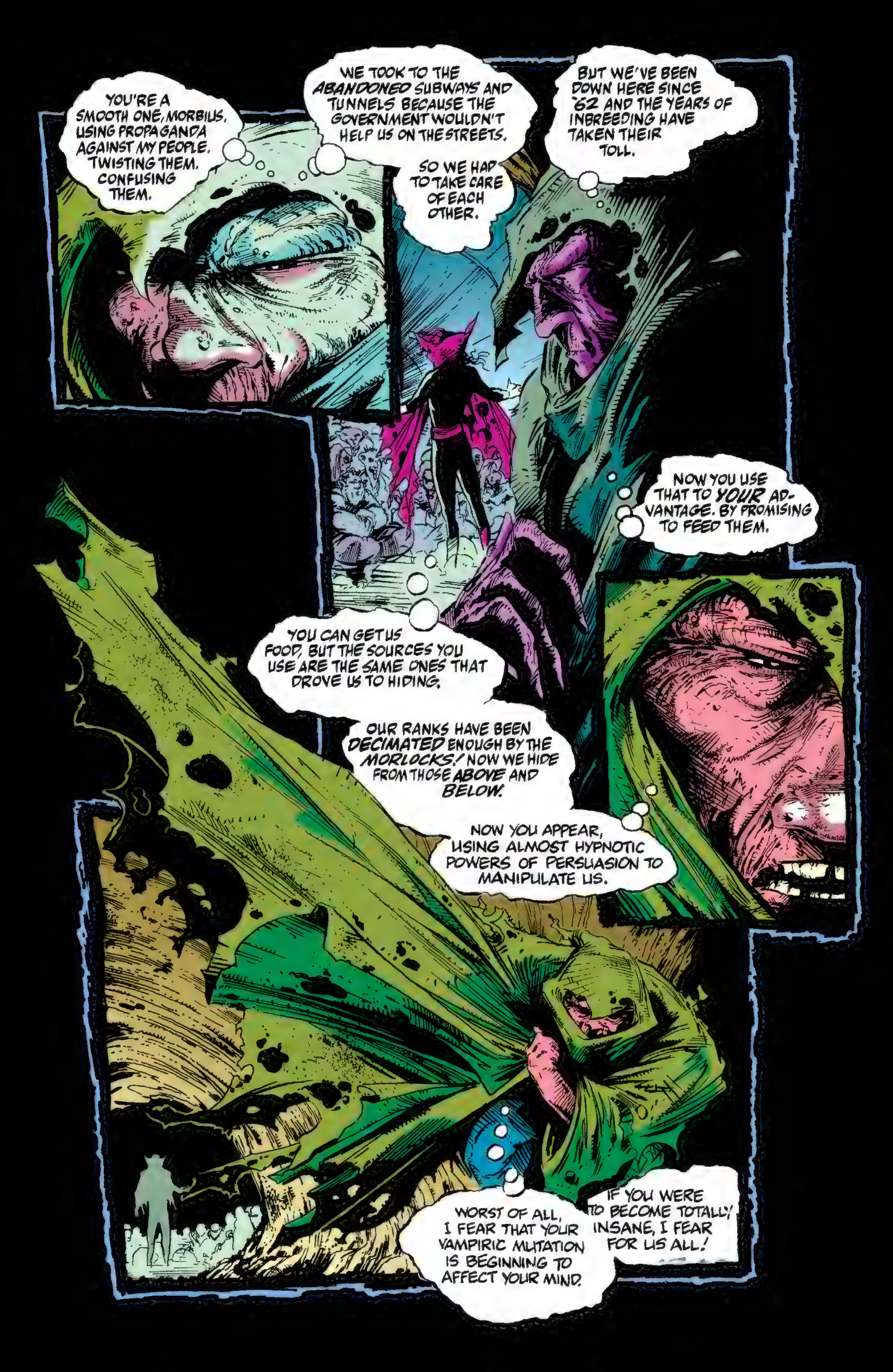
--THAT I
MIGHT NEVER
STOP.

MY CONTACTS
WITH THE OUTSIDE
CAN HELP US IN
SOME MINOR
WAYS.

I'M ESPECIALLY
PLEASED BY
YOUR EFFORTS,
KEEVER.

'Keever is
goodest of 'em
all!

SINCE I'M
FORCED TO HIDE
FROM THE SUNLIGHT,
YOU, MY FRIENDS,
HAVE PROVIDED MY
MEALS--



YOU'RE A SMOOTH ONE, MORBIUS, USING PROPAGANDA AGAINST MY PEOPLE. TWISTING THEM. CONFUSING THEM.

WE TOOK TO THE ABANDONED SUBWAYS AND TUNNELS BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT WOULDN'T HELP US ON THE STREETS.

BUT WE'VE BEEN DOWN HERE SINCE '62 AND THE YEARS OF INBREEDING HAVE TAKEN THEIR TOLL.

SO WE HAD TO TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER.

NOW YOU USE THAT TO *YOUR* ADVANTAGE. BY PROMISING TO FEED THEM.


YOU CAN GET US FOOD, BUT THE SOURCES YOU USE ARE THE SAME ONES THAT DROVE US TO HIDING.

OUR RANKS HAVE BEEN DECIMATED ENOUGH BY THE MORLOCKS! NOW WE HIDE FROM THOSE ABOVE AND BELOW.

NOW YOU APPEAR, USING ALMOST HYPNOTIC POWERS OF PERSUASION TO MANIPULATE US.

IF YOU WERE TO BECOME TOTALLY INSANE, I FEAR FOR US ALL!

WORST OF ALL, I FEAR THAT YOUR VAMPIRIC MUTATION IS BEGINNING TO AFFECT YOUR MIND.



YOU'D THINK AFTER ALL THIS
TIME I'D HAVE A HANDLE ON
HOW TO KEEP THE CRIME-
FIGHTING FROM THE REST OF
MY LIFE.

IT NEVER SEEMS TO
WORK OUT THAT
WAY. INSTEAD OF
THE CROOKS
GETTING
MESSED UP---

-- THEY JUST
CONTINUE TO
GO THEIR MERRY
WAY. AFTER ALL
THESE YEARS
THEY STILL DON'T
FEAR US!

WHY SHOULD THEY?
THEY KNOW HOW
TO USE THE LAW
BETTER THAN WE
DO.

THOR, CAP, THE F.F. HECK!
EVEN GUYS LIKE GHOST
RIDER AND PUNISHER
ARE IN THEIR FACE-- YET
THEY'VE ALWAYS GOT
A NEW SCAM.

WHAT'S EVEN CRAZIER,
IS THERE ARE PROBABLY
THOUSANDS OF KIDS WHO
WOULD LOVE TO HAVE MY
JOB! JOKE'S ON THEM.

THE SAD PART IS
I SOMETIMES PUT
MYSELF THROUGH
THIS JUST TO GET
A PHOTO.

SO WHO'S THE
BIGGER FOOL--
THEM OR ME!

ANYWAYS, THERE'S
THE MANHOLE THAT
I CAME UP THE
OTHER DAY.



MY BLACK COSTUME
SHOULD BE ABLE TO
GIVE ME A BIT MORE
CAMOUFLAGE
AGAINST THESE
MOLE PEOPLE--OR
WHATEVER THEY
ARE.

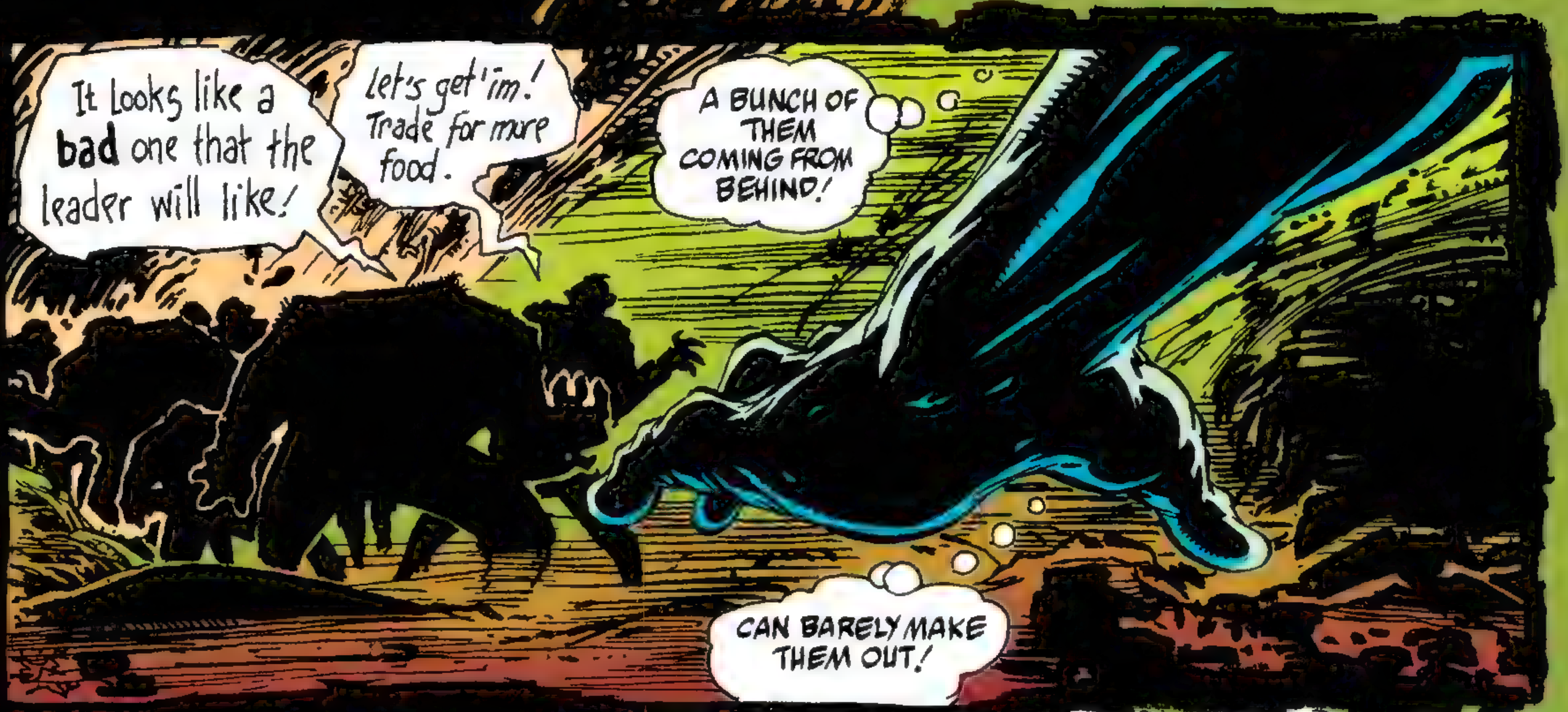
OF COURSE, ALL
MY PLANS HAVE
WORKED OUT SOOO
PERFECTLY
IN THE PAST.

CAN YOU SAY
MULTIPLE SCREW-
UPS, BOYS AND GIRLS?

GEEZ. IS IT
DARK! BEEN
NEARLY HALF
AN HOUR AND
MY EYES STILL
HAVEN'T GOTTEN
USED TO THE
DARKNESS.
GUESS I'LL JUST
SIT HERE TILL
THEY ADJUST.

EH?! MY
SPIDER-SENSE
ALREADY!
MAYBE I
SHOULDN'T HAVE
PUT SUCH A
BIG SPIDER
EMBLEM
ON MY
CHEST!





It looks like a
bad one that the
leader will like!

Let's get 'im!
Trade for more
food.

A BUNCH OF
THEM
COMING FROM
BEHIND!

CAN BARELY MAKE
THEM OUT!

SPIDER-SENSE TELLS ME THEY'RE
HERE, BUT NOT THE DIRECTION
THEY'RE COMING

FEELS LIKE
THEY'RE EVERY-
WHERE!!

OH, NO!
MORE FROM
THE LEFT--
AND THE
RIGHT!
CAN'T QUITE
SEE THEM
ALL!

the bad one!
the bad one!
the bad one!
the bad one!



I'm
hungry!

Some one get
the leader!
fast!

really
fast!



Leader!! Leader!
We've been invaded by
a black badone!

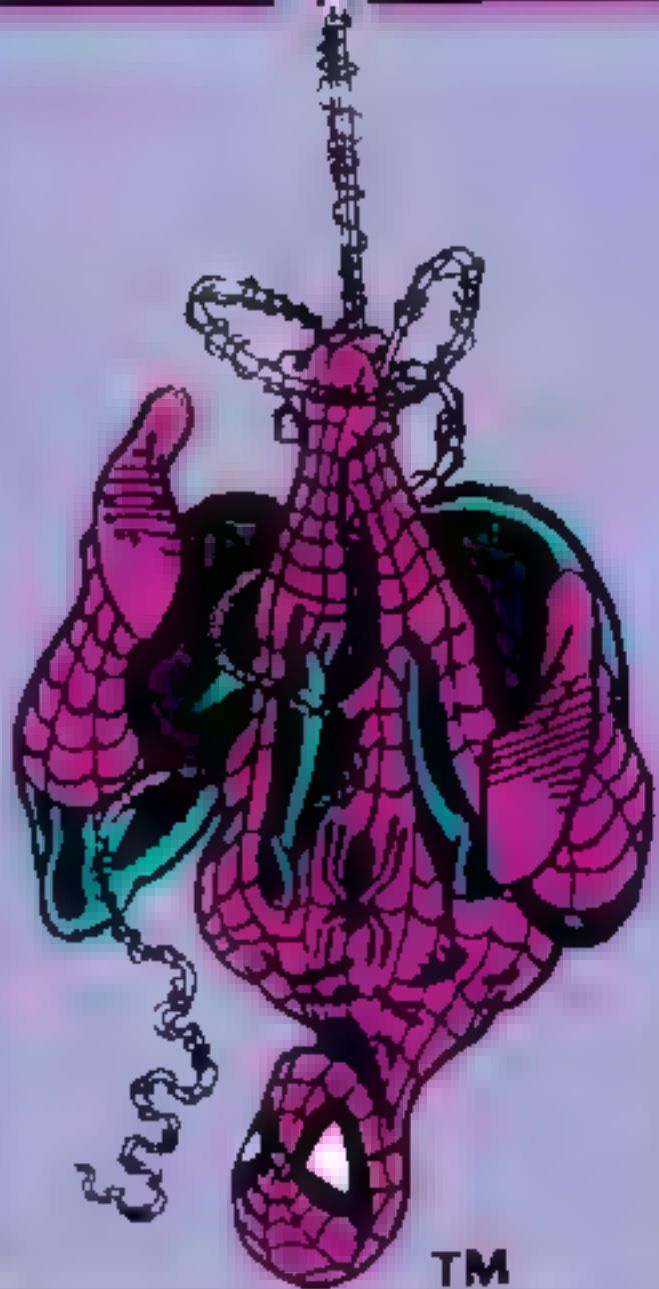
EXCELLENT!

THOUGH I'M SURE
DR. STRANGE WOULDN'T
APPROVE, LET'S SHOW OUR
GUEST WHO RULES THE
UNDERGROUND!

NO ONE
TRESPASSES
WITHOUT
PAYING
THE PRICE!

NEXT ISSUE:
The Conclusion

MARVEL[®]
COMICS

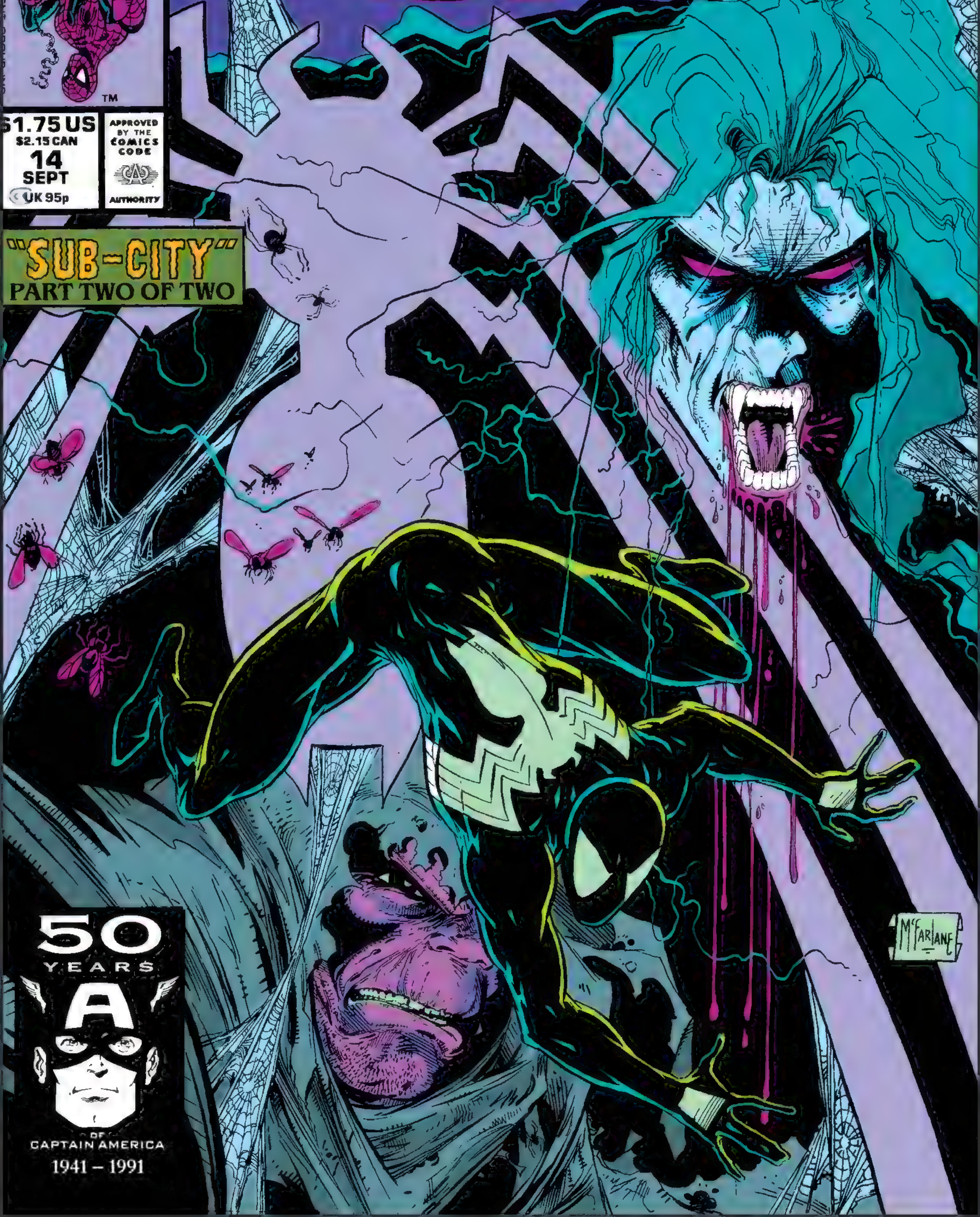


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"SUB-CITY"
PART TWO OF TWO

SPIDER-MAN[®]



STAN LEE PRESENTS
PART TWO:

SUBCITY



TODD
McFARLANE - STORY
- PENCILS
- INKS

RICK
PARKER - LETTERS

GREGORY
WRIGHT - COLORS

JIM
SALICRUP - EDITOR

TOM
DE FALCO - BAD ONE

IT'S ANOTHER FAIRLY BRIGHT DAY
OVER THE NEW YORK SKYLINE. NOT
MUCH CAUSE FOR WORRY. UNLESS
YOUR NAME IS SPIDER-MAN.

OUR STORY CONTINUES, NOT UNDER
THE RADIANT GLARE OF THE SUN, BUT
IN THE DEEP, DARK BOWELS OF THE
LONG ABANDONED SUBWAY CAVERNS.
THEY STRETCH OUT LIKE THE LINES OF
SHATTERED GLASS. DIRECTIONLESS.

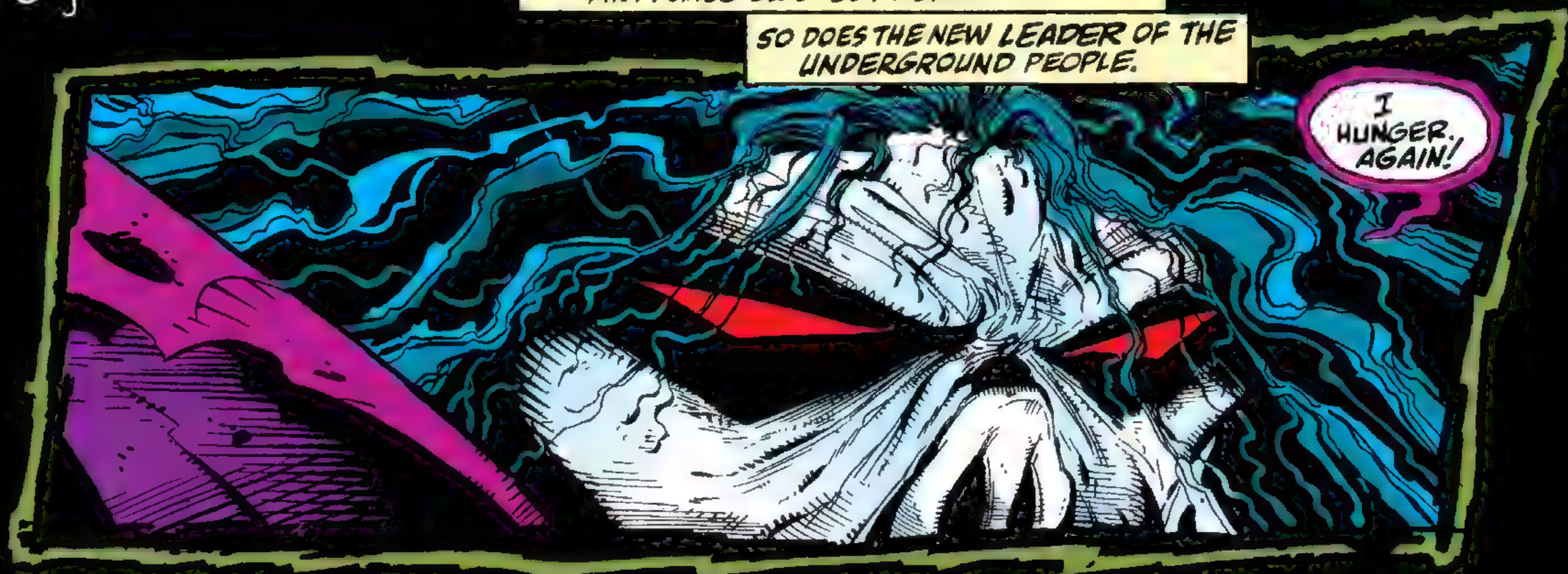
OR SO IT SEEMS.

FOR UNDER THE SPRAWLING CITY LIVES A GROUP OF
MALFORMED HUMANS WHO HAVE TURNED THEIR
BACKS ON SOCIETY TO LIVE UNDERGROUND. THEY
HAVE BEEN DISREGARDED BY GOVERNMENT.
FALLEN INTO THE SO-CALLED "CRACKS"
OF OUR SYSTEM.

NOW THEY FOLLOW
THEIR OWN RULES.
THEY ARE THE
GOOD ONES.
FOOD AND SHELTER
BEING THEIR MAJOR
CONCERNS. TO ATTAIN
THESE THEY MUST
SOMETIMES VENTURE
TO THE CITY ABOVE
AND GET WHAT THEY
NEED FROM THE
"BAD ONES."

THIS IS WHERE SPIDEY COMES IN. DRAGGED
INTO ANOTHER CONFRONTATION IN WHICH
VIOLENCE AND FORCE MIGHT BE HIS ONLY
COMPANIONS... AGAIN. HE WISHES HE WERE
ANY PLACE ELSE BUT HERE.

SO DOES THE NEW LEADER OF THE
UNDERGROUND PEOPLE.



BUT AT THE PRESENT TIME, SPIDEY IS
LOCKED IN BATTLE WITH THOSE SELF-
PROCLAIMED "GOOD ONES."

THOUGH THEY DON'T POSE
MUCH OF A THREAT, IT IS
THEIR SHEER NUMBERS
THAT IS GIVING OUR HERO
A BIT OF TROUBLE.

AND A LACK OF
VISIBILITY.

GREAT!

JUST
GREAT!!

IT'S AT TIMES
LIKE THIS I WISH
I WORE A UTILITY-
BELT.

THEN I
COULD CARRY
SPIDEY
NASAL
PLUGS.

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S WORSE--THE
FACT THAT THESE GUYS
ARE KIDNAPPERS AND
POSSIBLE
MURDERERS--

-- OR THEIR
INCREDIBLY
OFFENSIVE
BODY ODOR.

Git it!
git the bad
bug thing!

Stomp
the bug!
SQUISH
the bug!



git him!

stop him!

me will smash!

go for others!

tresspassen!

bad one!

evil spider-thing!

hold him!

you be sorry!

I got him!

watch out you on my foot!

ouch!

me am mad!

GEEZ. YOU SOUND LIKE TWENTY COOKIE MONSTERS!

CURSE YOU, MORBILUS! LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO MY PEOPLE.

THEY LEFT THE WORLD ABOVE TO ESCAPE SUCH UGLINESS. BUT YOU'VE ABUSED THEIR INNOCENCE. TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THEIR SIMPLE MINDS.

AND NOW THEY ACT LIKE YOUR SOCIETY.

FIGHTING SO THEY CAN GET MORE AND MORE AND MORE.

SORRY TO SPOIL THE PARTY, BOYS, BUT I NEED A FEW MORE MINUTES TO MYSELF.

no!

come back!

promise.

we need you!

we be good!

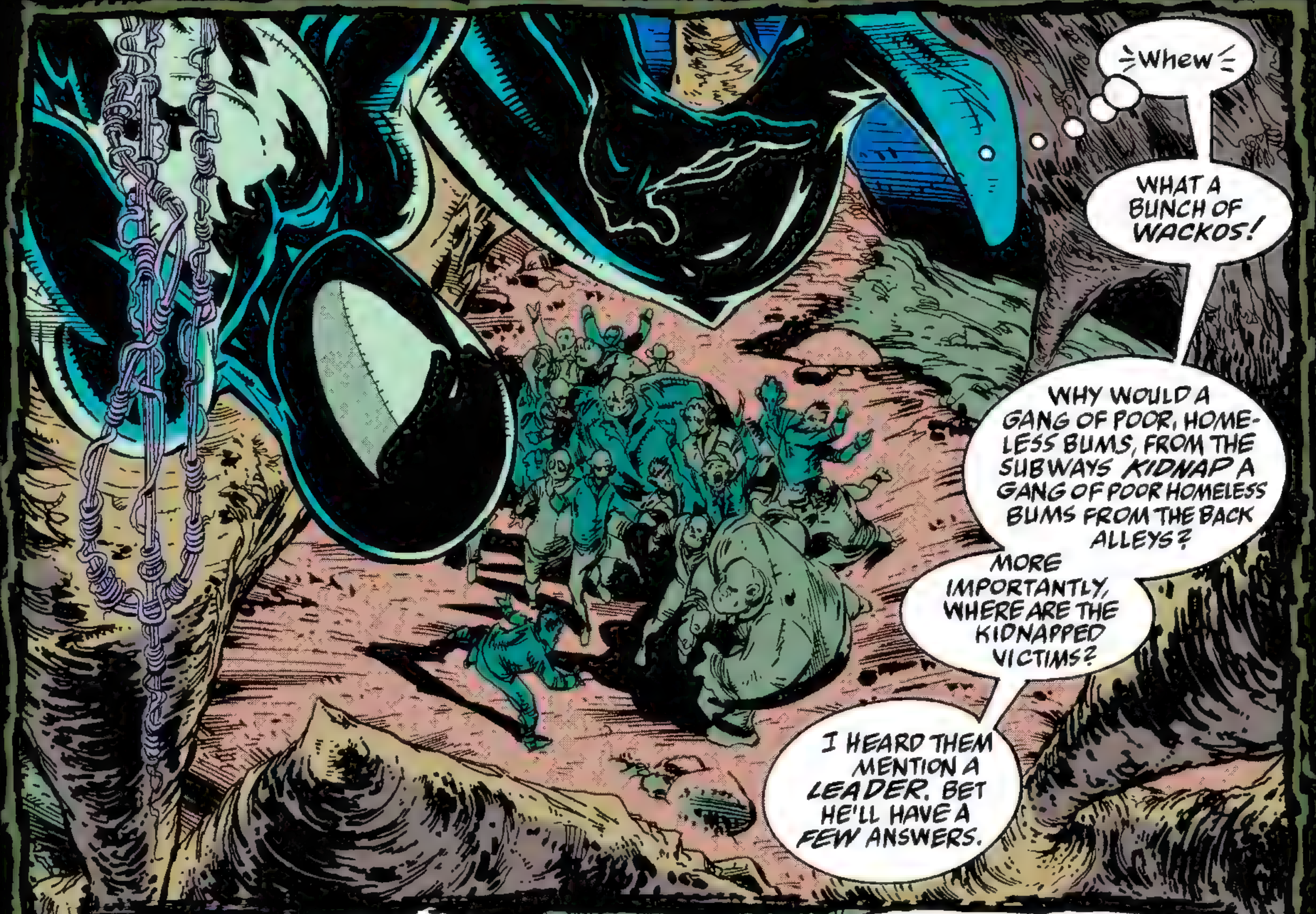
we didn't mean it!

get off my foot!

stop spider-thing!

we like you!

CONFUSED THEM WITH PROMISES OF FOOD AND CLOTHING IN RETURN FOR SACRIFICIAL VICTIMS.



Whew

WHAT A BUNCH OF WACKOS!

WHY WOULD A GANG OF POOR, HOMELESS BUMS, FROM THE SUBWAYS KIDNAP A GANG OF POOR HOMELESS BUMS FROM THE BACK ALLEYS?

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHERE ARE THE KIDNAPPED VICTIMS?

I HEARD THEM MENTION A LEADER, BET HE'LL HAVE A FEW ANSWERS.

BUT SINCE THESE BOYS WON'T TAKE ME TO HIM WILLINGLY, I'LL HAVE TO RESORT TO OTHER MEANS.

we be nice. come down. me like you. me luv you.



ATTENTION, TROOPS!

A FREE WAYNE GRETZKY ROOKIE CARD TO THE FIRST ONE OF YOU TO STRING FIVE WORDS TOGETHER IN A SENTENCE.

me am friend.

OOOH! ALMOST! BUT NOT QUITE.

ANYONE ELSE WANT TO TRY?

LUCKILY MY EYESIGHT'S
STARTING TO ADJUST.
WON'T HAVE TO RELY
ON SPIDER-SENSE
SO MUCH.

he comes.

we be good.

we be good.

yeah,
really nice.

extra
nice.

extra nice.

best buddies.

aha-ha-
ha-ha!

we
trick!

me won't
be nice!

me not buddies!

you be fooled!

Spider-thing is dumb!

we faked!
we faked!

THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH!

oh, oh!
bad is
mad.

oh, oh!

oh, oh!

oh,
oh!

oh,
oh!

oh,
oh!

oops!

OW!!
git off
foot!

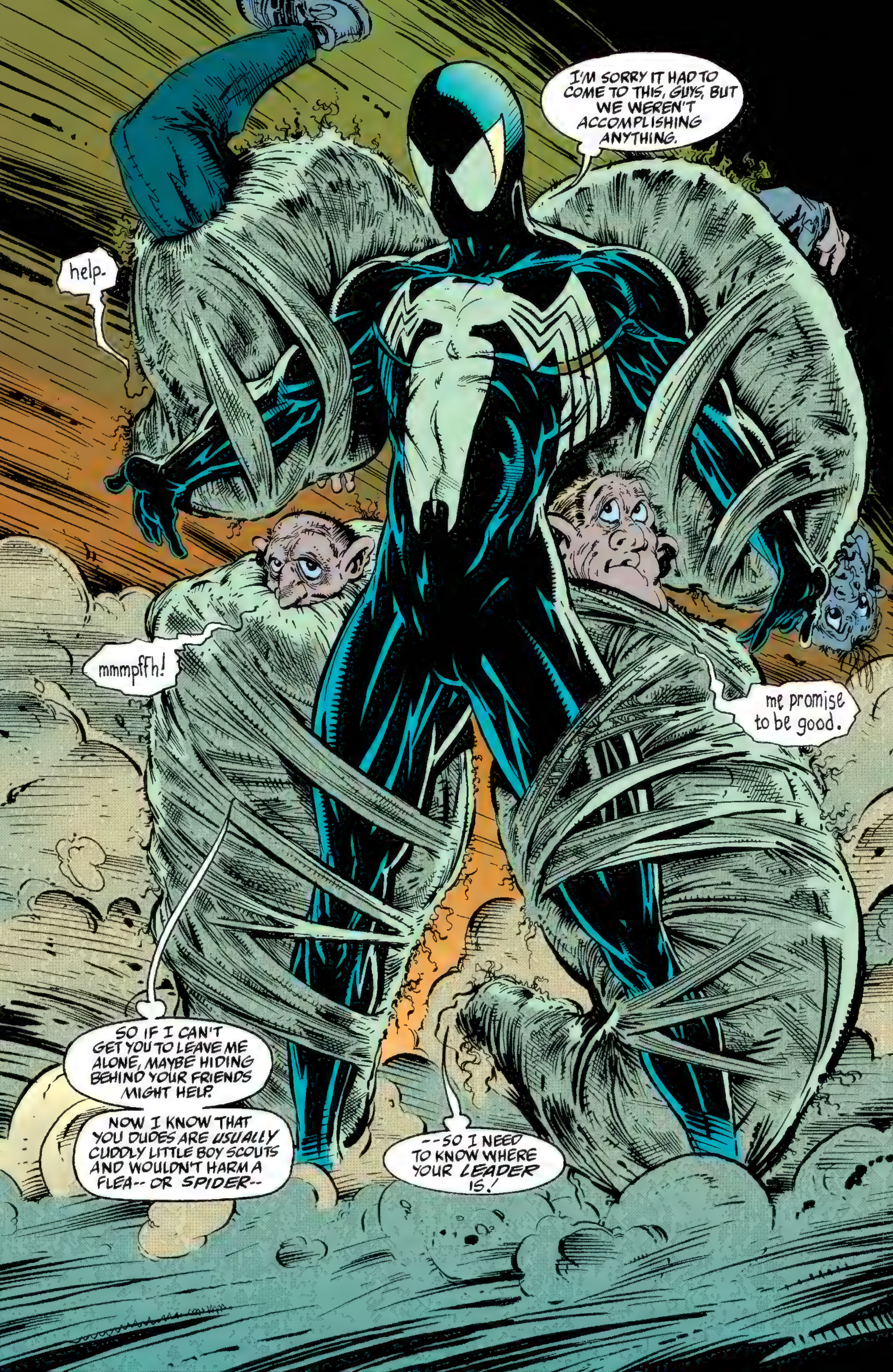
oh,
oh!

oh, oh!

THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP
THWIPP

oh, oh!

oh, oh!



I'M SORRY IT HAD TO
COME TO THIS, GUYS, BUT
WE WEREN'T
ACCOMPLISHING
ANYTHING.

help.


mmmpf h!

me promise
to be good.

SO IF I CAN'T
GET YOU TO LEAVE ME
ALONE, MAYBE HIDING
BEHIND YOUR FRIENDS
MIGHT HELP.

NOW I KNOW THAT
YOU DUDES ARE *USUALLY*
CUDDLY LITTLE BOY SCOUTS
AND WOULDN'T HARM A
FLEA-- OR SPIDER--

--SO I NEED
TO KNOW WHERE
YOUR LEADER
IS!



We can't let you see him. Only the good ones can be at his side. You are from above. You are the ones who forget us. Turned your backs when we needed help.

We won't let you confuse us any more.

Get 'im, friends. He must not escape!

AHA! SOMEONE WHO CAN TALK, WHAT A CONCEPT. WHAT A JOY!

YOU MUST BE A CARD COLLECTOR!

ANYWAY, YOU GUYS WANT A FIGHT! I'LL GIVE YOU A FIGHT! BUT DON'T BLAME ME IF I RIP A FEW ARMS AND HEADS OFF AND USE THEM AS CLUBS. BESIDES, I'M FAMISHED AND YOU GUYS SMELL PRETTY TASTY.

YUM!
YUM!
YUM!

NOW I'M REALLY READY! SO WHO'S GOING TO BE THE FIRST VICTIM?!



not me.

or me.

no thanks.

take him.

shut up!

enjoy yourself,

sin.

LOOK AT THAT! A
LITTLE OVERACTING
AND THEY PART LIKE
THE RED SEA.



thanks
for coming

enjoy

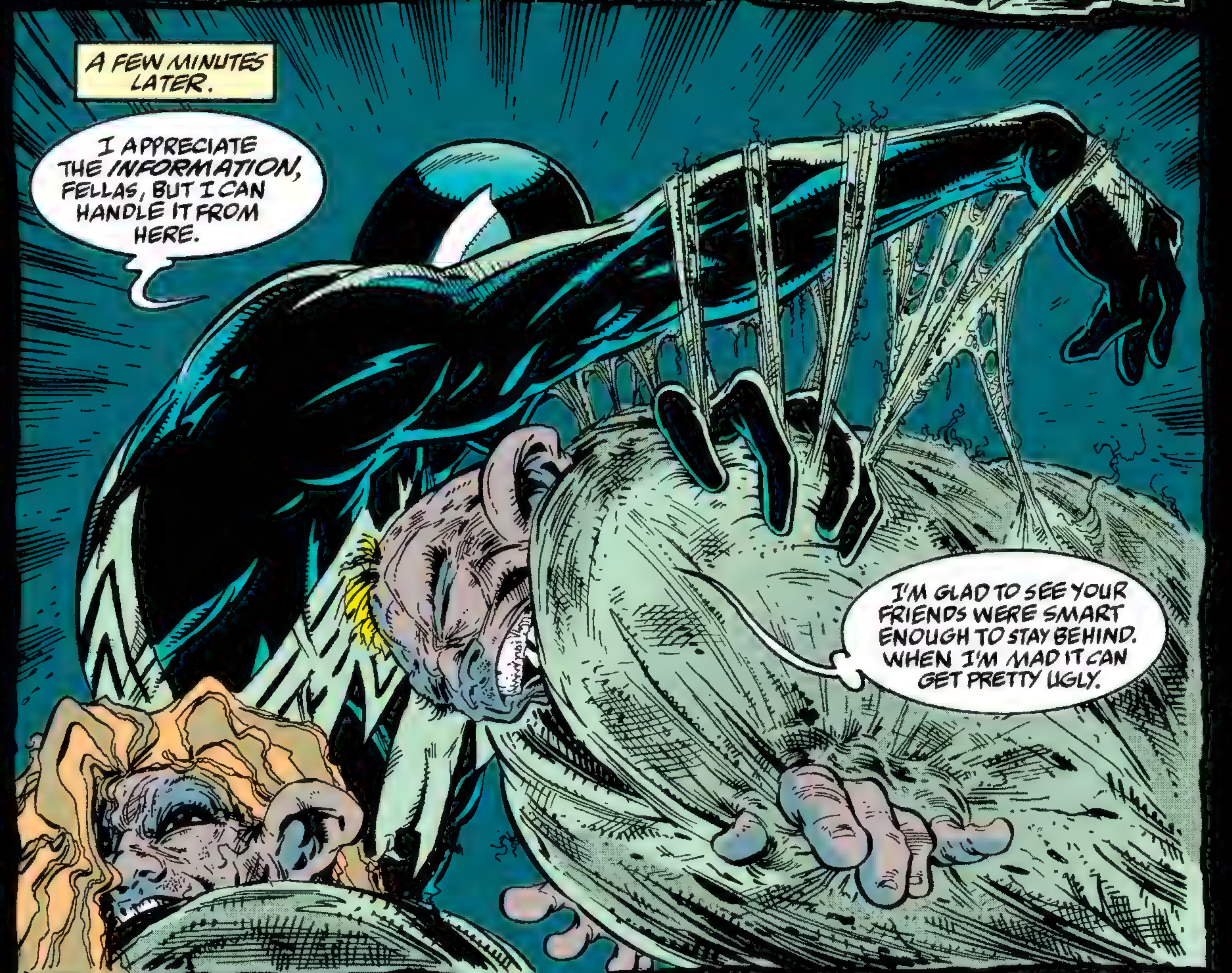
say hi to
leader for us.

WHICH DIRECTION
IS YOUR BOSS,
GUYS?

keep
going
straight!

yeah,
straight.

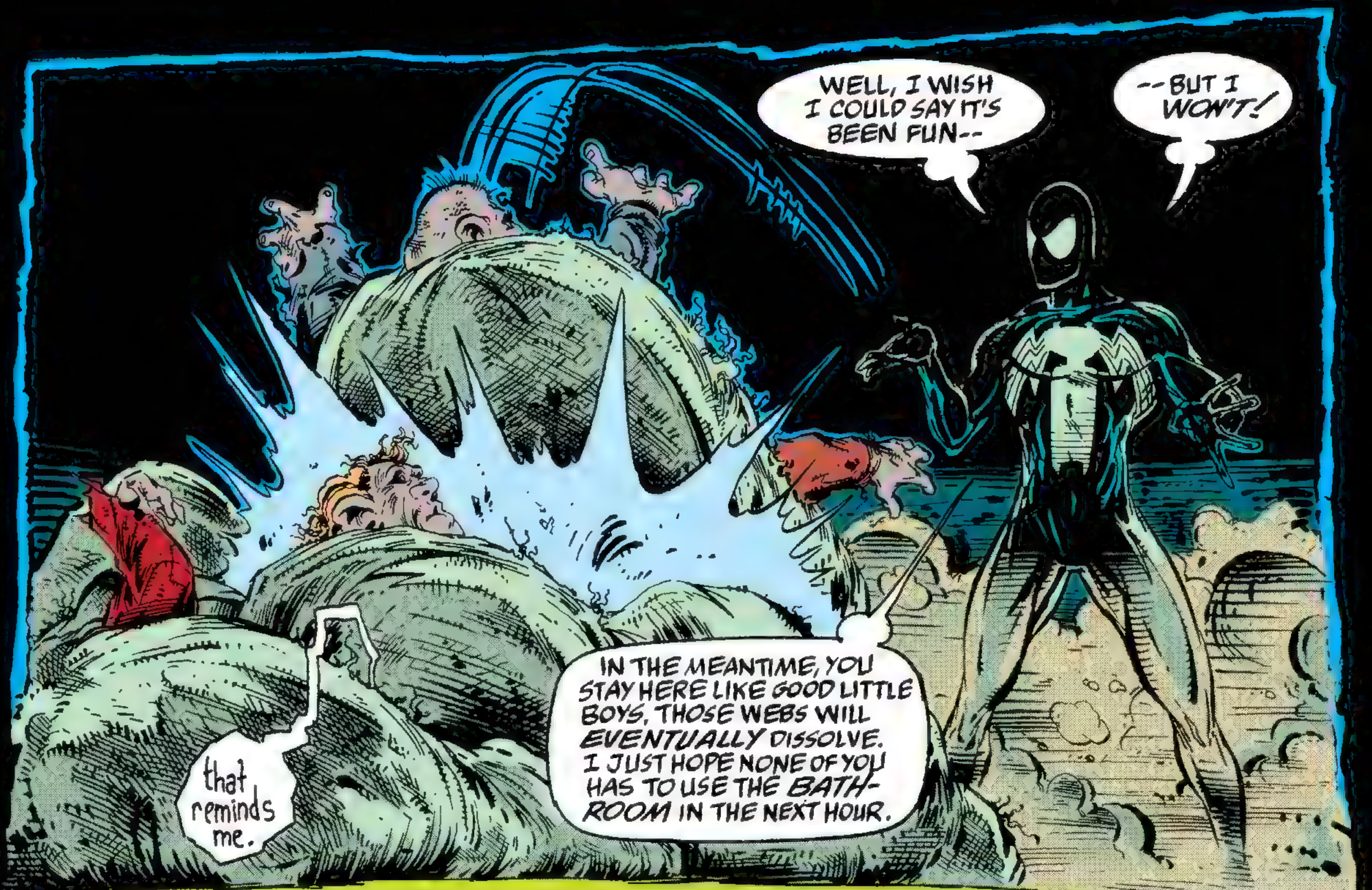
mmpff!



A FEW MINUTES
LATER.

I APPRECIATE
THE INFORMATION,
FELLAS, BUT I CAN
HANDLE IT FROM
HERE.

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOUR
FRIENDS WERE SMART
ENOUGH TO STAY BEHIND.
WHEN I'M MAD IT CAN
GET PRETTY UGLY.

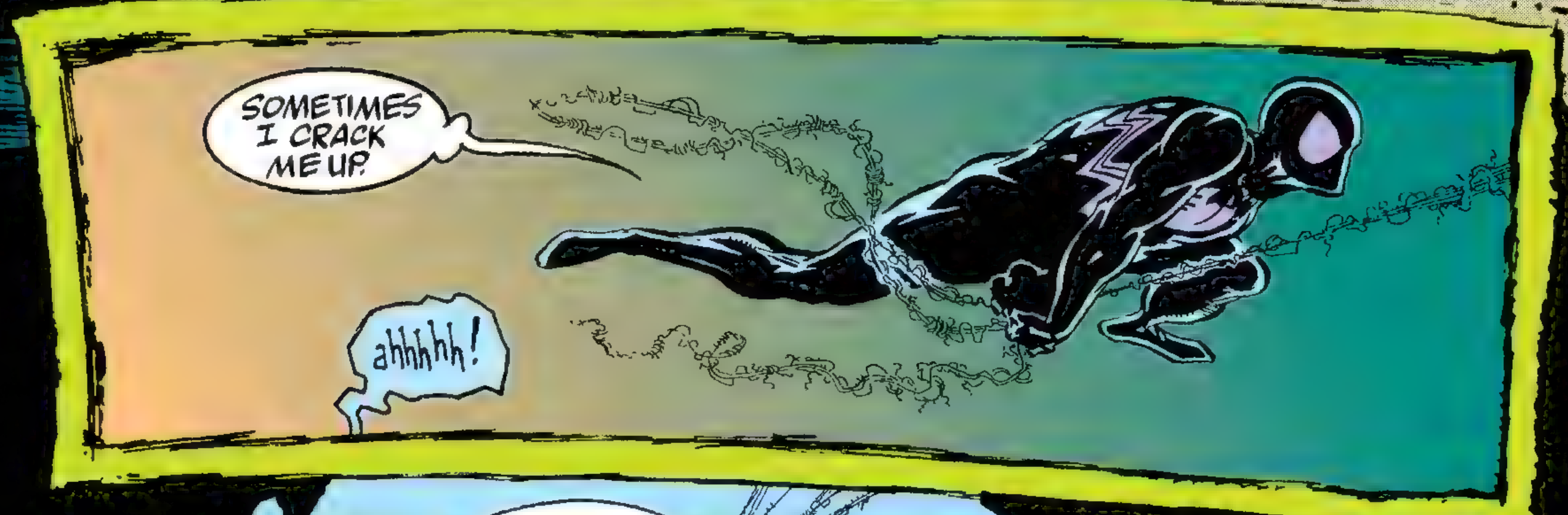


WELL, I WISH I COULD SAY IT'S BEEN FUN--

-- BUT I WON'T!

IN THE MEANTIME, YOU STAY HERE LIKE GOOD LITTLE BOYS, THOSE WEBS WILL EVENTUALLY DISSOLVE. I JUST HOPE NONE OF YOU HAS TO USE THE BATH-ROOM IN THE NEXT HOUR.

that reminds me.



SOMETIMES I CRACK ME UP.

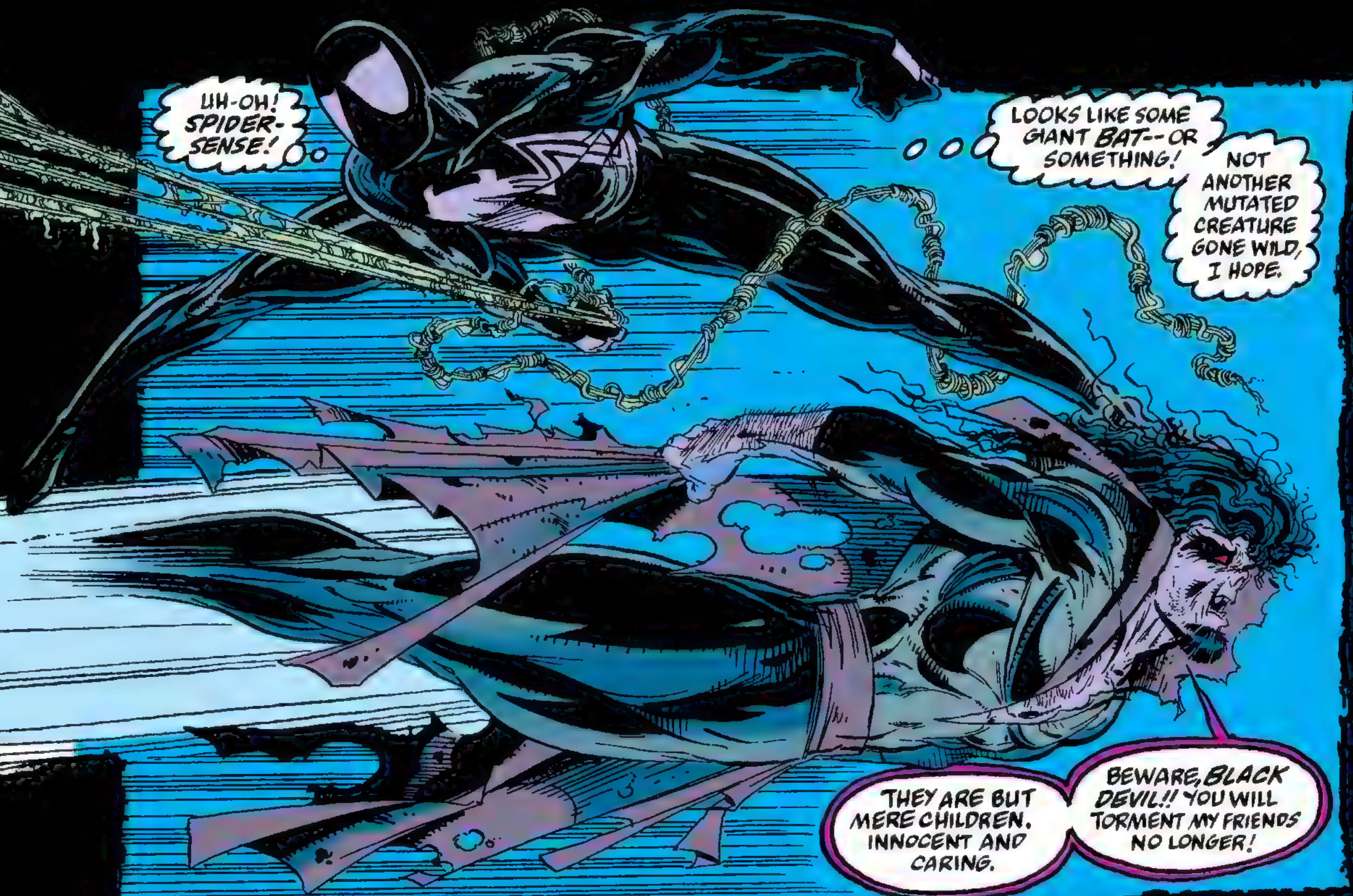
ahhhhh!



NOW TO GET DOWN TO SOME SERIOUS BUSINESS. I STILL HAVEN'T SEEN ANY HINT OF THE KIDNAPPED VICTIMS.

THEY HAVE TO BE SOMEWHERE.

AND I'M REALLY BUMMED THAT THIS BLACK COSTUME HASN'T HELPED ME ONE iota. THEIR EYESIGHT IS INCREDIBLE. I COULD HAVE SPARED MARY JANE FROM THE PAINFUL MEMORIES THIS COSTUME BRINGS.



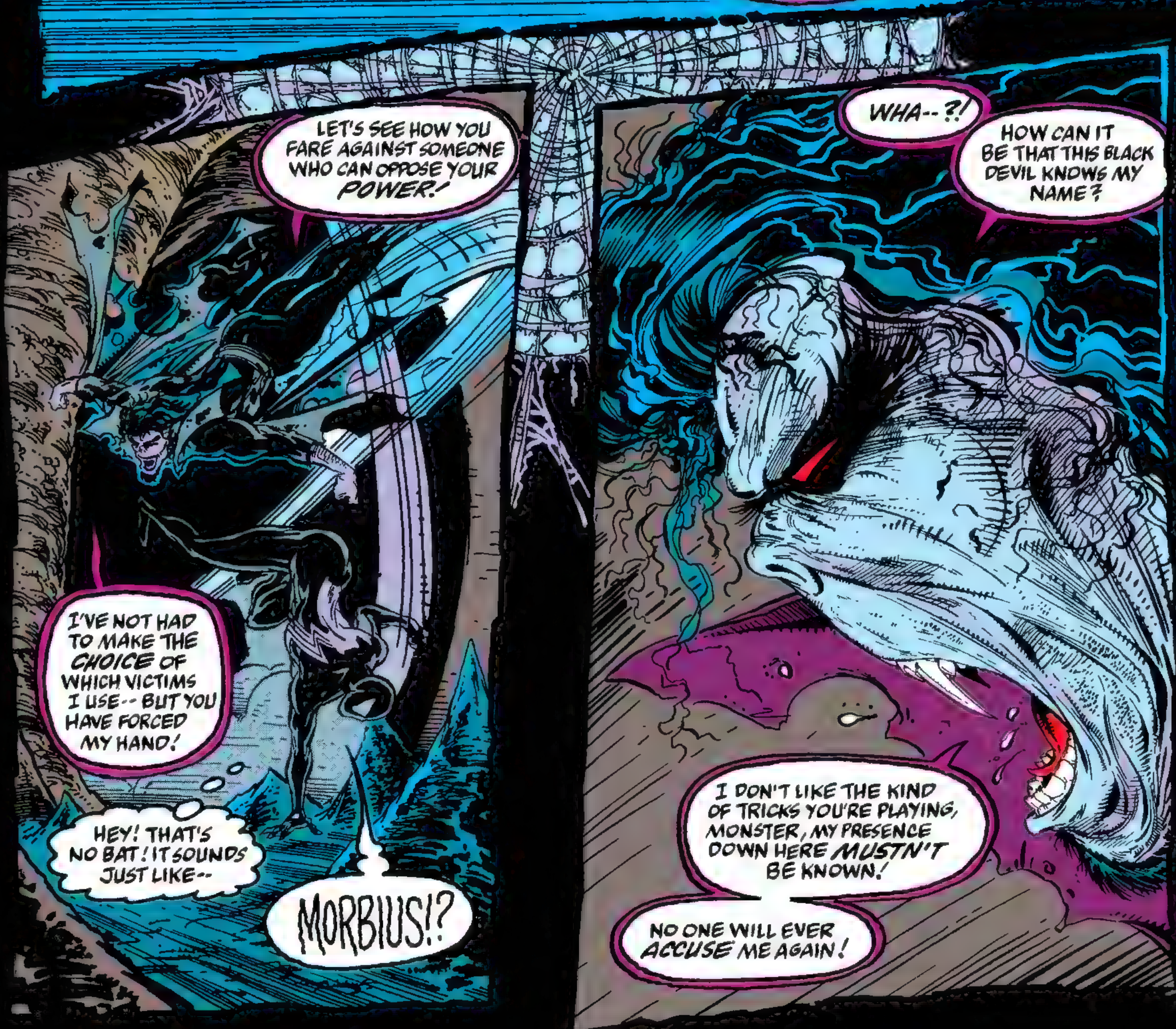
UH-OH!
SPIDER-
SENSE!

LOOKS LIKE SOME
GIANT BAT-- OR
SOMETHING!

NOT
ANOTHER
MUTATED
CREATURE
GONE WILD,
I HOPE.

THEY ARE BUT
MERE CHILDREN.
INNOCENT AND
CARING.

BEWARE, **BLACK
DEVIL**!! YOU WILL
TORMENT MY FRIENDS
NO LONGER!



LET'S SEE HOW YOU
FARE AGAINST SOMEONE
WHO CAN OPPOSE YOUR
POWER!

I'VE NOT HAD
TO MAKE THE
CHOICE OF
WHICH VICTIMS
I USE-- BUT YOU
HAVE FORCED
MY HAND!

HEY! THAT'S
NO BAT! IT SOUNDS
JUST LIKE--

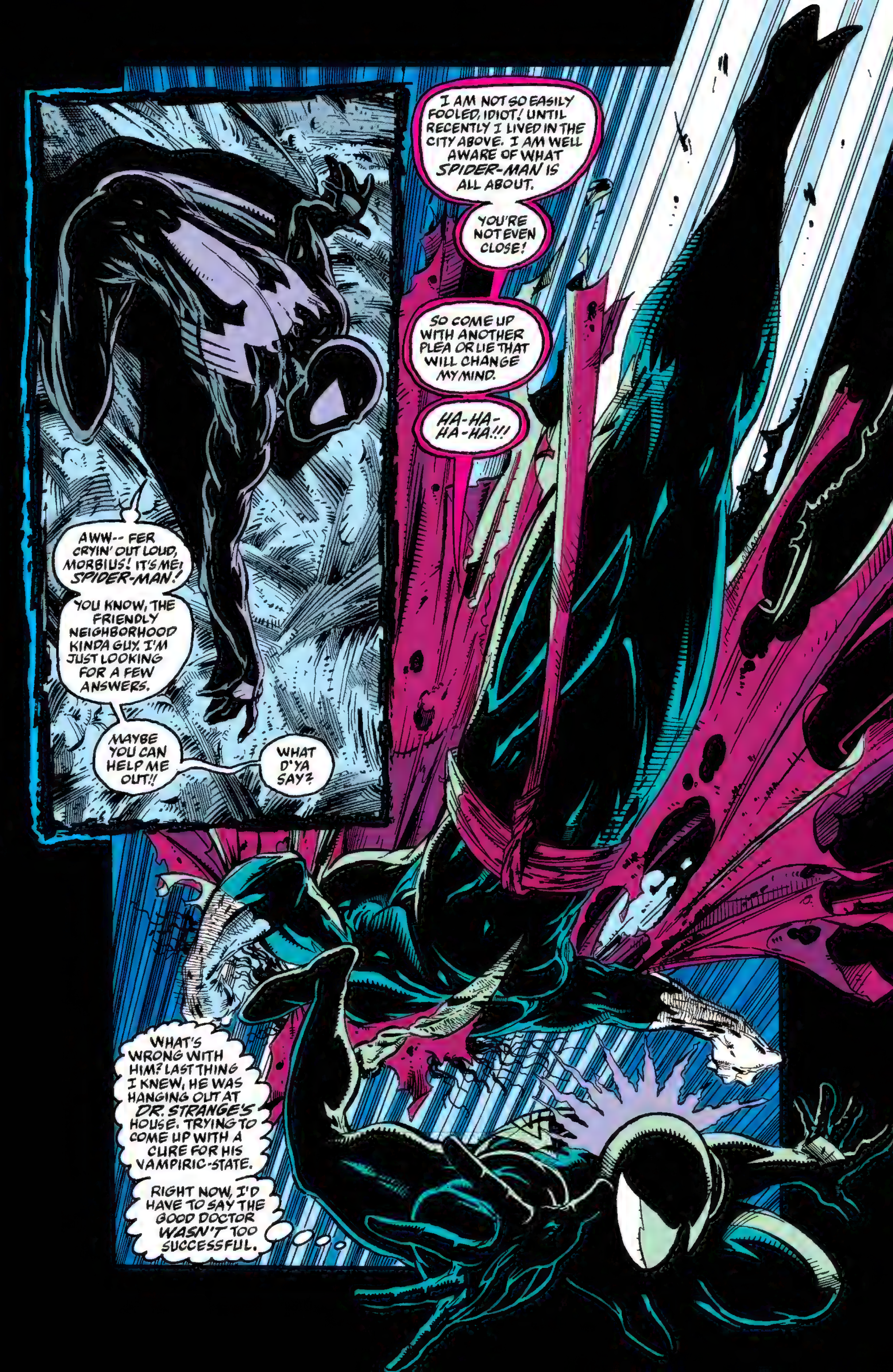
MORBIUS!?

WHA-- ?!

HOW CAN IT
BE THAT THIS **BLACK
DEVIL** KNOWS MY
NAME?

I DON'T LIKE THE KIND
OF TRICKS YOU'RE PLAYING,
MONSTER, MY PRESENCE
DOWN HERE **MUSTN'T**
BE KNOWN!

NO ONE WILL EVER
ACCUSE ME AGAIN!

A comic book panel featuring Morbis the Bloodthirsty, a large, dark, bat-like creature with a wide, toothy grin, and Spider-Man. Morbis is on the left, looking towards Spider-Man on the right. Spider-Man is in his classic red and blue suit, with his mask on. The background shows a cityscape with buildings and a bridge. The panel is divided into several sections by Morbis's body and Spider-Man's position.

I AM NOT SO EASILY
FOOLED, IDIOT! UNTIL
RECENTLY I LIVED IN THE
CITY ABOVE, I AM WELL
AWARE OF WHAT
SPIDER-MAN IS
ALL ABOUT.

YOU'RE
NOT EVEN
CLOSE!

SO COME UP
WITH ANOTHER
PLEA OR LIE THAT
WILL CHANGE
MY MIND.

HA-HA-
HA-HA!!!

AWW-- FER
CRYIN' OUT LOUD,
MORBIUS! IT'S ME!
SPIDER-MAN!

YOU KNOW, THE
FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
KINDA GUY. I'M
JUST LOOKING
FOR A FEW
ANSWERS.

MAYBE
YOU CAN
HELP ME
OUT!!

WHAT
D'YA
SAY?

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
HIM? LAST THING
I KNEW, HE WAS
HANGING OUT AT
DR. STRANGE'S
HOUSE. TRYING TO
COME UP WITH A
CURE FOR HIS
VAMPIRIC-STATE.

RIGHT NOW, I'D
HAVE TO SAY THE
GOOD DOCTOR
WASN'T TOO
SUCCESSFUL.

LISTEN, MORBIUS, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO HEAR YOUR PROBLEMS. I'VE GOT A FEW OF MY OWN.

LIKE WHERE HAVE ALL THOSE KIDNAPPED, HOMELESS PEOPLE DISAPPEARED TO? AND DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW!

I HAD NO CHOICE, DON'T YOU SEE!!

I CAN'T JUST LET MYSELF DIE!! MY URGES ARE STRONGER THAN ANYONE CAN IMAGINE. BUT I'M TIRED OF HAVING TO PICK OUT THE NEXT VICTIM. TIRED OF PLAYING GOD.

NOW YOU'VE MADE MY CHOICE EASY.

WRONG!

WHETHER YOU WANT TO ACCEPT IT OR NOT, WE HAVE FOUGHT BEFORE. BUT YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO WANT TO FIND ANOTHER SOLUTION TO DRINKING BLOOD.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU LATELY--

-- BUT YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE UP NOW. NOT AFTER ALL THE YEARS YOU'VE STRUGGLED AGAINST IT. YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT! YOU'RE A DOCTOR FOR GOD'S SAKE!!

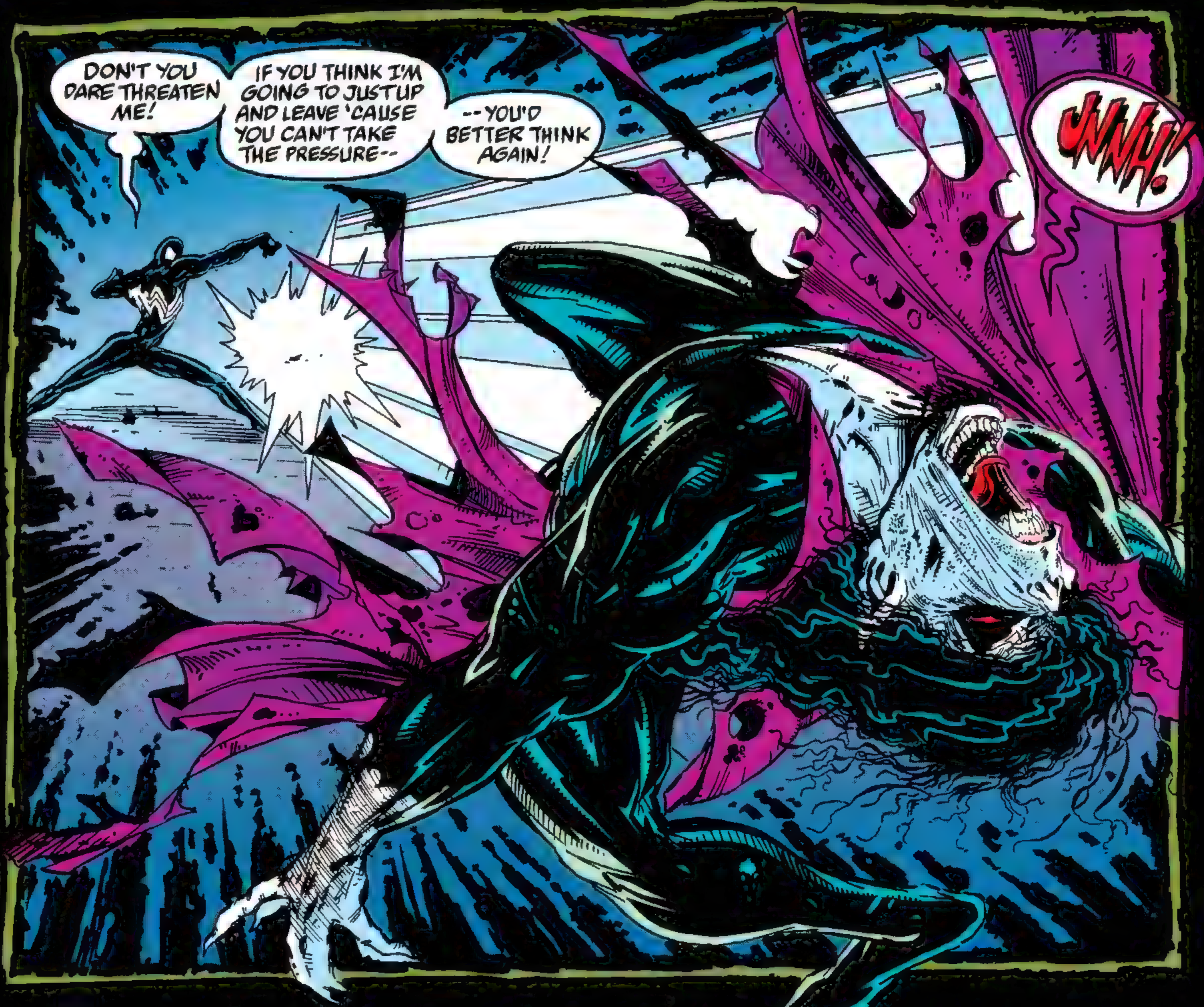
YOU'RE RIGHT, I AM A DOCTOR. BUT THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SCIENCE. EVERYTHING I HOLD DEAR HAS BEEN STRIPPED AWAY FROM ME. MY PRACTICE, MY COLLEAGUES, MY LOVED ONES.

AND WORST OF ALL, MY DIGNITY! YOU THINK IT'S EASY FOR ME TO PREY ON OTHERS FOR SURVIVAL? THEN CURSE YOU!!

SPIDER-MAN-- IT DOESN'T MATTER. WHAT DOES IS THAT YOU LEAVE HERE AT ONCE. FOR I HAVE SWORN TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE.

IN RETURN, THEY BRING ME THE VICTIMS AND EASE MY BURDEN OF HAVING TO PICK THEM MYSELF. I COULDN'T TAKE THAT KIND OF MADNESS ANY LONGER.

NOW GO!!



DON'T YOU DARE THREATEN ME!

IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO JUST UP AND LEAVE 'CAUSE YOU CAN'T TAKE THE PRESSURE--

--YOU'D BETTER THINK AGAIN!

WAAH!



FOOL!

CAN'T YOU SEE I HAVE NO CHOICE. I'VE AGONIZED OVER THIS TIME AND AGAIN. I NEED THEIR BLOOD! WITHOUT IT I'D SOON DIE.

AND BELIEVE ME, SPIDER-MAN, I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT DYING THOUSANDS OF TIMES. BUT LIKE YOU SAID-- I CAN'T GIVE UP.

MORE IMPORTANTLY I WON'T!

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO DIE, GIVE ME A BREAK! I'M TELLING YOU THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY. EVEN I KNOW A BIT ABOUT SCIENCE, AND THERE ARE TESTS THAT CAN--

ARE
YOU
DEAF?!

I SAID THIS
HAS NOTHING
TO DO WITH
SCIENCE!

I'VE TRIED
EVERYTHING! THAT'S
WHY I WAS LIVING
WITH *DR. STRANGE*
FOR A WHILE. I KNEW
MY CURE WOULD NOT
COME AT THE HANDS
OF MODERN MEDICINE.

THAT'S GARBAGE,
MORBIUS, AND YOU
KNOW IT!!

SHUT UP! I
KNOW WE'VE BATTLED
IN THE PAST. I THOUGHT
THIS MEETING COULD
END DIFFERENTLY.

NOTHING CAN
HELP ME! DON'T
YOU UNDERSTAND?
ALL I CAN DO IS
ACCEPT MY FATE
AND LEARN TO
LIVE WITH IT.

I'VE OBVIOUSLY
GIVEN YOU *FAR*
TOO MUCH CREDIT.

I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT
YOU HEROES CAN BE BLINDED
BY YOUR OWN FORM OF JUSTICE.
NOT WANTING TO REASON OUT
AN ANSWER. NOT WANTING TO
HEAR THE OTHER SIDE.

SO IF I HAVE
TO COME DOWN TO
YOUR LEVEL,
FINE--



BECAUSE
IF YOU'RE LOOKING
FOR A FIGHT, THEN,
MISTER, I'M IN
THE PERFECT
MOOD!!

A FIGHT?

JEEZ!
TAKE A LOOK
AT WHO'S
ATTACKING WHO!

THE ONLY REASON
I HAVEN'T MOPPED UP
THE FLOOR WITH YOUR UGLY
FACE-- IS OUT OF RESPECT,
BUT EVEN THAT HAS LIMITS.
I KNOW YOU'RE A SICK MAN.
FINE. WE BOTH AGREE
ON THAT. JUST GIVE ME
BACK THE HOMELESS
PEOPLE YOU KIDNAPPED
AND I'LL LEAVE YOU TO
YOUR OWN DEVICES.

AND!--I'LL
MAKE SURE YOU
GET HELP FROM THE
AVENGERS OR
FANTASTIC FOUR
OR WHOEVER IT
TAKES TO RID YOU
OF YOUR CURSE.

BUT IN THE MEAN-
TIME, YOU CAN'T JUST
PREY ON THE UNFORTU-
NATE. BEING POOR IS
NO REASON FOR THEM
TO BE VICTIMIZED.

THEY'VE
HAD PLENTY OF
THAT.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING
ABOUT? THE PEOPLE THAT
ARE BROUGHT TO ME DON'T
SUFFER ANY PERMANENT DAMAGE.
THEY'RE MERELY USED FOR NOUR-
ISHMENT. AND BESIDES, MY
NEW FRIENDS HAVE TOLD ME
THAT ONLY THE SO-CALLED
"BAD ONES" ARE BEING
CHOSEN.

PEOPLE WHO DESERVE
TO SUFFER IF ONLY FOR A
SHORT WHILE.

WELL, WHAT
THEY'VE SAID AND
WHAT THEY'VE DONE
ARE TWO DIFFERENT
THINGS.

DO YOU THINK I'D BE
DOWN HERE IF NOTHING BUT
DRUG DEALERS AND MURDERERS
WERE MISSING?

ARE YOU
QUESTIONING
THE LOYALTY OF
MY PEOPLE?

THEY DON'T HAVE THE
CAPACITY TO LIE. THEY
ARE THE TRUE VICTIMS,
HIDING AWAY FROM POLI-
TICIANS AND GOVERNMENTS
THAT SYSTEMATICALLY CHOOSE
TO IGNORE THEM. LIVING
IN DARKNESS HOPING NO
ONE WILL FIND THEM.
THEY ONLY WANT FOOD
AND CLOTHING. THINGS
WHICH I CAN PROVIDE
FROM THE CITY. MY
CONNECTIONS AS A DOCTOR
GIVE ME SOURCES THAT I
CAN USE. AND IF ALL ELSE
FAILS I CAN STILL PROVIDE--
BEING A VAMPIRE CAN
HAVE ITS BENEFITS.

SPEAK
OF THE
DEVIL!
HERE THEY
ARE NOW.
WHY DON'T
YOU ASK
THEM
YOURSELF.

IT'LL BE
MY
PLEASURE.

SO DON'T
TALK TO ME
ABOUT
VICTIMS.

'KEEVER,
THE
PEOPLE
YOU'VE
BROUGHT
ME, YOU
CALL THEM
"BAD."
WHY?

'cuzz
they be
bad!!
me
git them
like me
wuz told.
but me
only
take the
bad
ones.

NO! NO!
MY FRIEND,
WHY ARE
THEY BAD?

they
live in
bad city.

AND
WHAT ELSE
MAKES THEM
BAD?

that's
all.

WHAT ABOUT
MURDERERS?

they
bad.

WHAT
ABOUT
CROOKS?

they
bad.

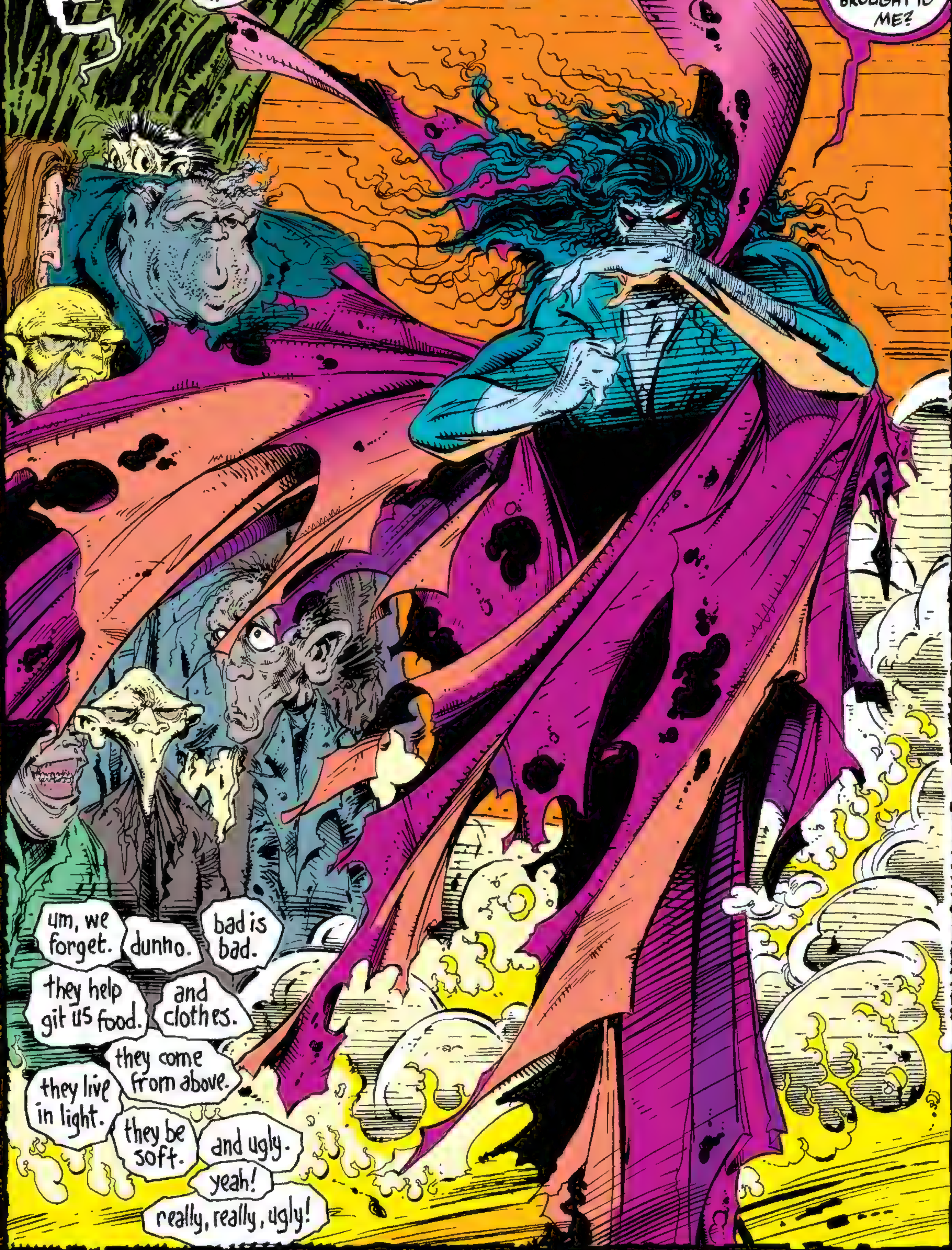
WHAT ABOUT
CHILDREN
AND OLD
LADIES AND
PUPPIES?

they
bad.

UNH? NO, I DON'T
THINK YOU UNDERSTAND.
WHAT MAKES THEM BAD?

they not
good.

WHAT ABOUT
THE REST OF
YOU? I KNOW
I SAID I
WOULDN'T
ASK, BUT HOW
DID YOU PICK
THE BAD ONES
THAT WERE
BROUGHT TO
ME?



um, we
forget.

dunno.

bad is
bad.

they help
git us food.

and
clothes.

they live
in light.

they come
from above.

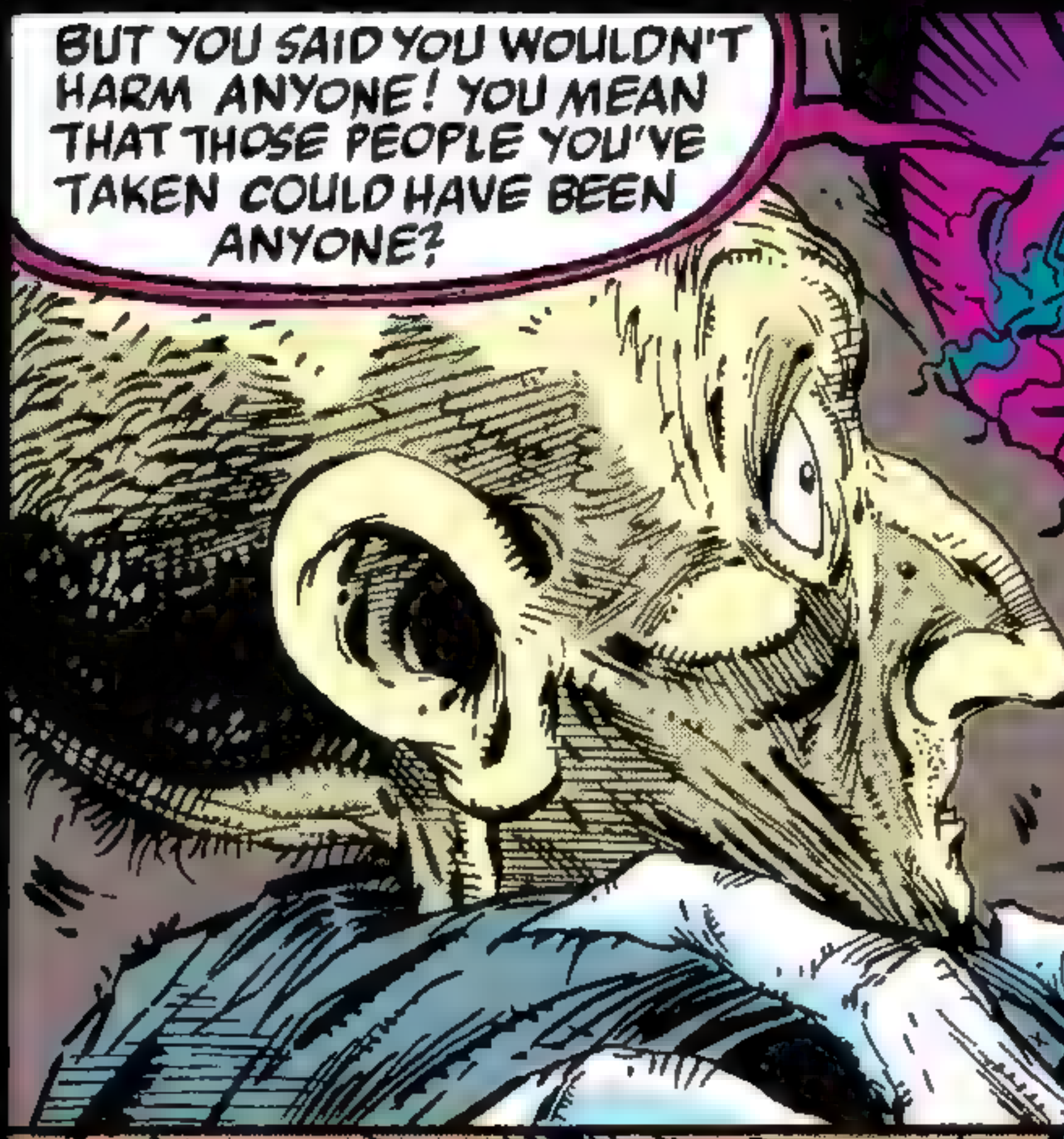
they be
soft.

and ugly.

yeah!

really, really, ugly!

BUT YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T HARM ANYONE! YOU MEAN THAT THOSE PEOPLE YOU'VE TAKEN COULD HAVE BEEN ANYONE?

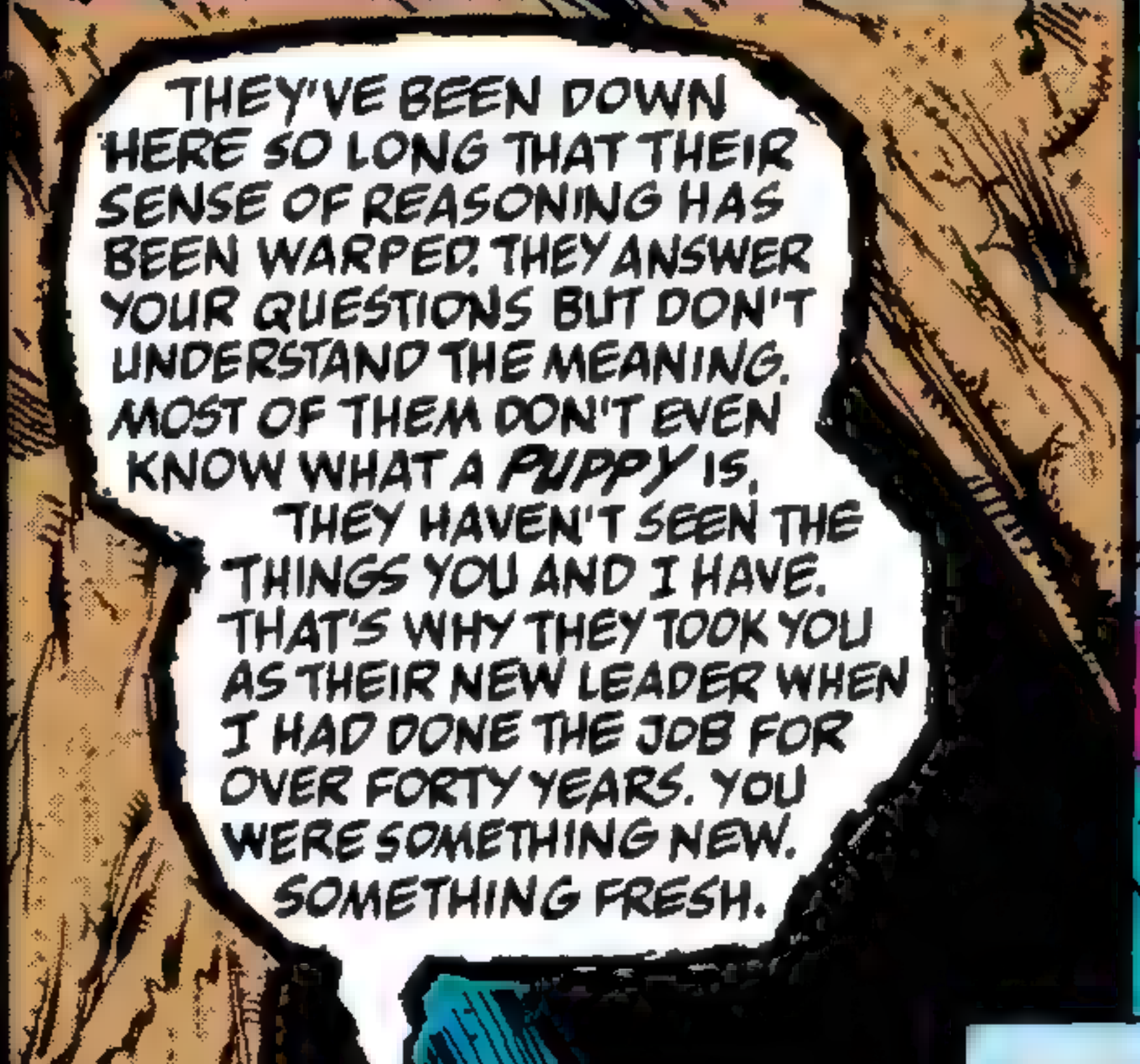


DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT MEANS...?!



UNFORTUNATELY, THEY DON'T.

THEY'VE BEEN DOWN HERE SO LONG THAT THEIR SENSE OF REASONING HAS BEEN WARPED. THEY ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS BUT DON'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING. MOST OF THEM DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT A PUPPY IS. THEY HAVEN'T SEEN THE THINGS YOU AND I HAVE. THAT'S WHY THEY TOOK YOU AS THEIR NEW LEADER WHEN I HAD DONE THE JOB FOR OVER FORTY YEARS. YOU WERE SOMETHING NEW. SOMETHING FRESH.



I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'VE DONE. BECAUSE OF ME, INNOCENT PEOPLE HAVE TURNED UPON OTHERS JUST AS INNOCENT.

I'M SPREADING MY CURSE ON THOSE WHO TRUST ME. CORRUPTING. I-I CAN'T... THEY-- W-WHEN WILL--



IN WANTING TO PLEASE, THEY DECEIVED YOU. IT WASN'T INTENTIONAL. THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY DID WAS WRONG.

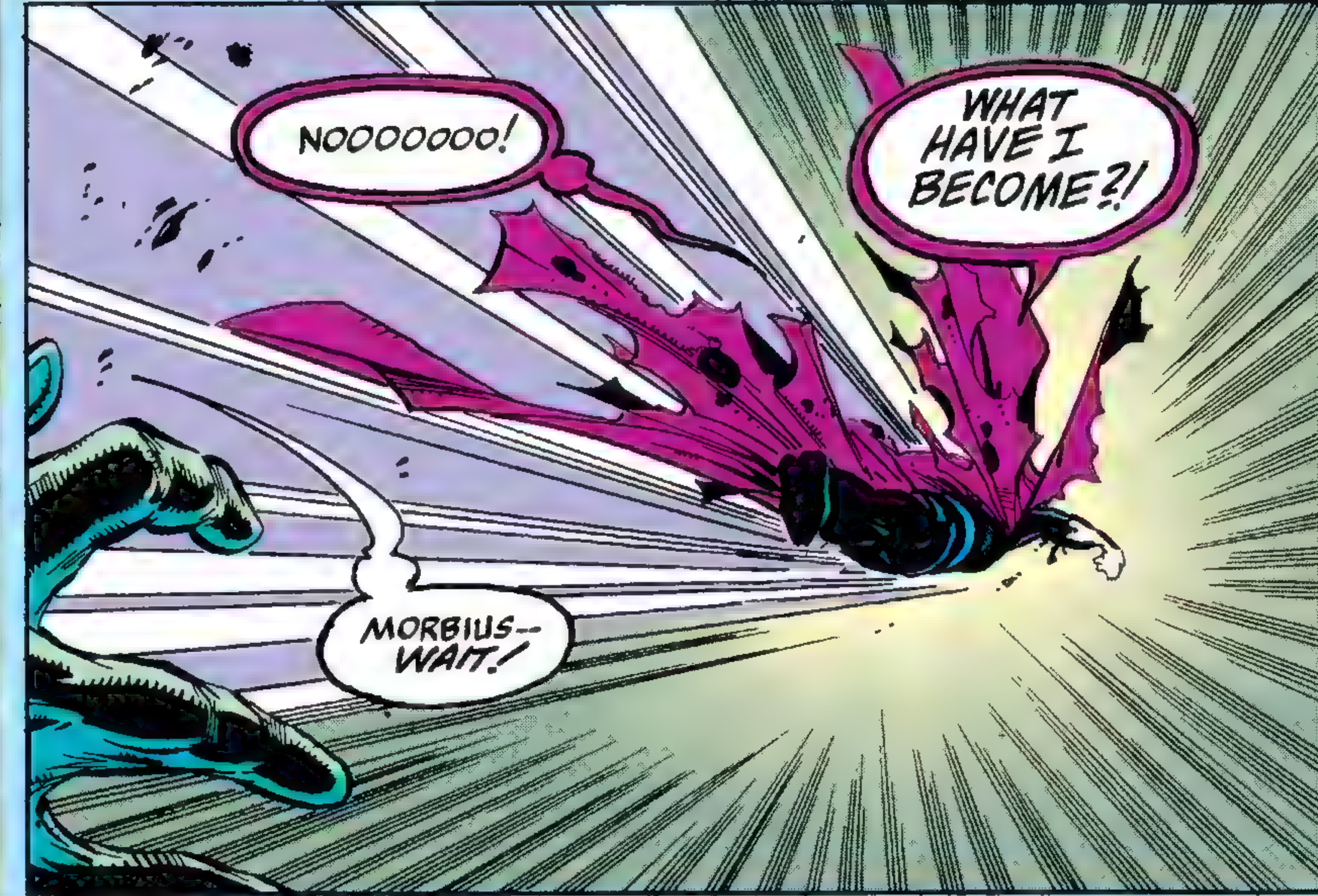
TO THEM EVERYTHING WAS RIGHT. NO ONE IS TO BLAME HERE. WE JUST ALL GAVE IN TO OUR NEEDS A LITTLE TOO EASILY.

PLEASE, LET ME HAVE MY PEOPLE BACK. I KNOW HOW TO CARE FOR THEM.

NOOOOOOOO!

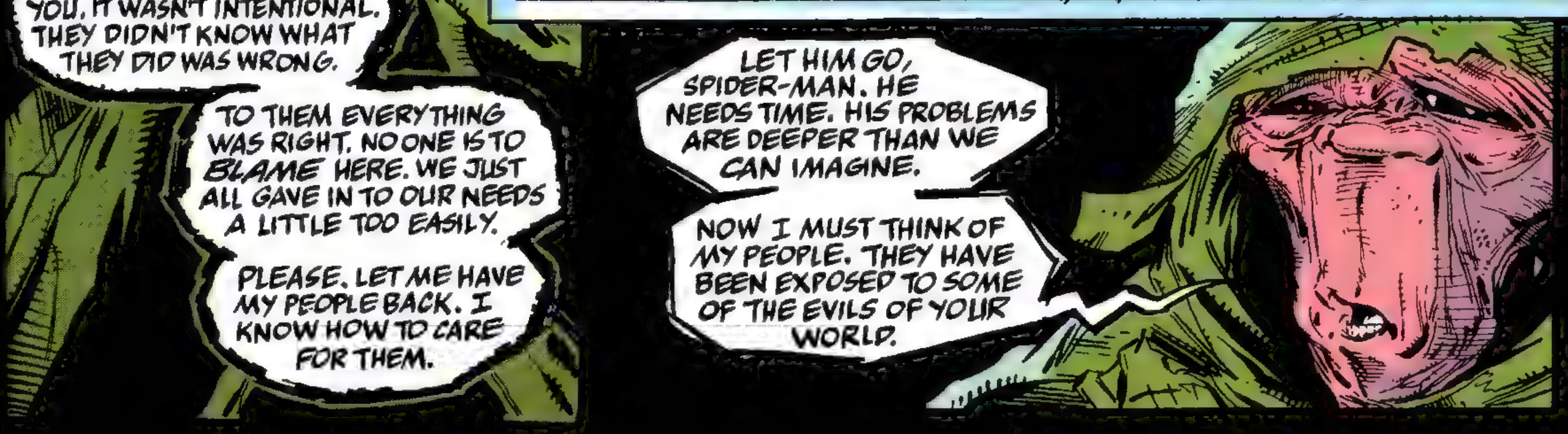
WHAT HAVE I BECOME?!

MORBIUS-- WAIT!



LET HIM GO, SPIDER-MAN. HE NEEDS TIME. HIS PROBLEMS ARE DEEPER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE.

NOW I MUST THINK OF MY PEOPLE. THEY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO SOME OF THE EVILS OF YOUR WORLD.



"LOOK AT THEM.
THEY'RE CONFUSED."



"GOOD OLD 'KEEVER.
HE WAS ONLY TRYING
HIS BEST. HE HAS A
LOT TO FEEL GOOD
ABOUT."



"AND THE OTHERS,
THEY TRY SO HARD."



"NOW IT'S TIME TO
GIVE THEM
ANSWERS."



"THEY WANT TO KNOW
WHY THEY WERE
REJECTED AGAIN."



"CAN YOU GIVE THEM
AN ANSWER SPIDER-
MAN?"

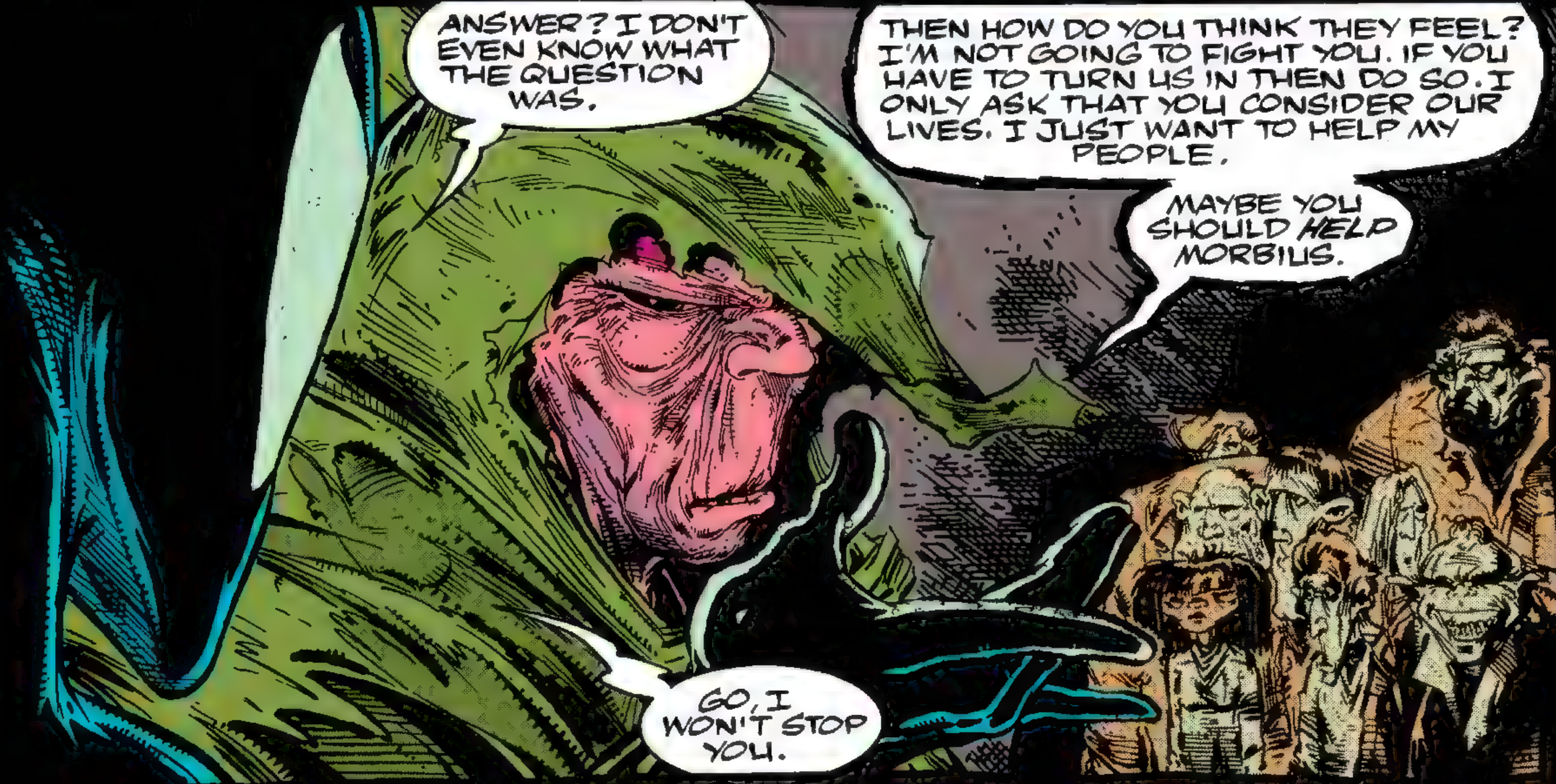



ANSWER? I DON'T
EVEN KNOW WHAT
THE QUESTION
WAS.

THEN HOW DO YOU THINK THEY FEEL?
I'M NOT GOING TO FIGHT YOU. IF YOU
HAVE TO TURN US IN THEN DO SO. I
ONLY ASK THAT YOU CONSIDER OUR
LIVES. I JUST WANT TO HELP MY
PEOPLE.

MAYBE YOU
SHOULD HELP
MORBILIS.

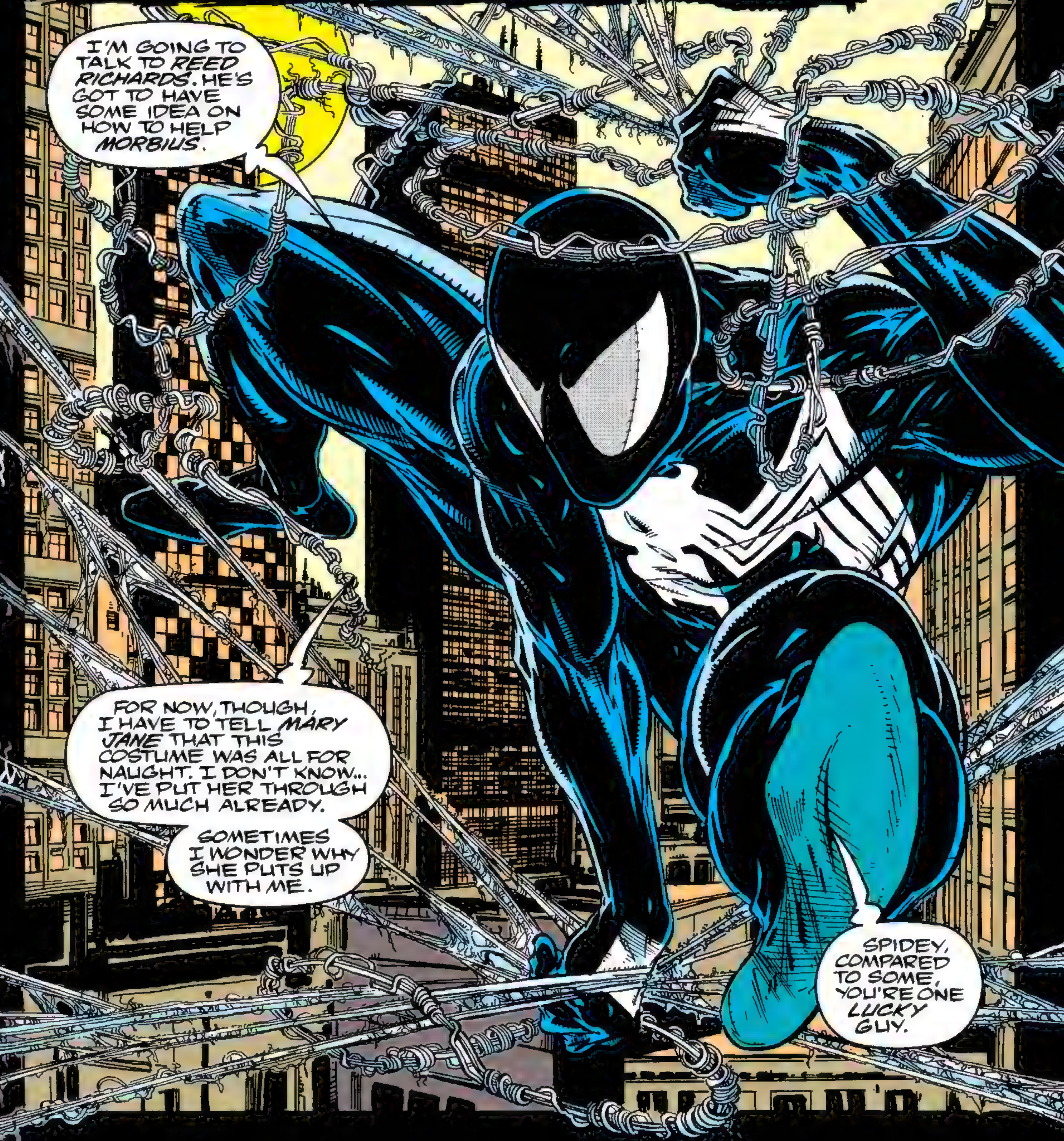
GO, I
WON'T STOP
YOU.





I THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPASSION. EVEN THOUGH THIS WILL SOON BECOME A BLUR TO THEM, I WILL NOT FORGET THAT THERE ARE STILL THOSE WHO CARE.

LATER, IN THE SUNLIGHT.



I'M GOING TO TALK TO REED RICHARDS. HE'S GOT TO HAVE SOME IDEA ON HOW TO HELP MORBIUS.

FOR NOW, THOUGH, I HAVE TO TELL MARY JANE THAT THIS COSTUME WAS ALL FOR NAUGHT. I DON'T KNOW... I'VE PUT HER THROUGH SO MUCH ALREADY.

SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY SHE PUTS UP WITH ME.

SPIDEY, COMPARED TO SOME, YOU'RE ONE LUCKY GUY.

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4
NOV

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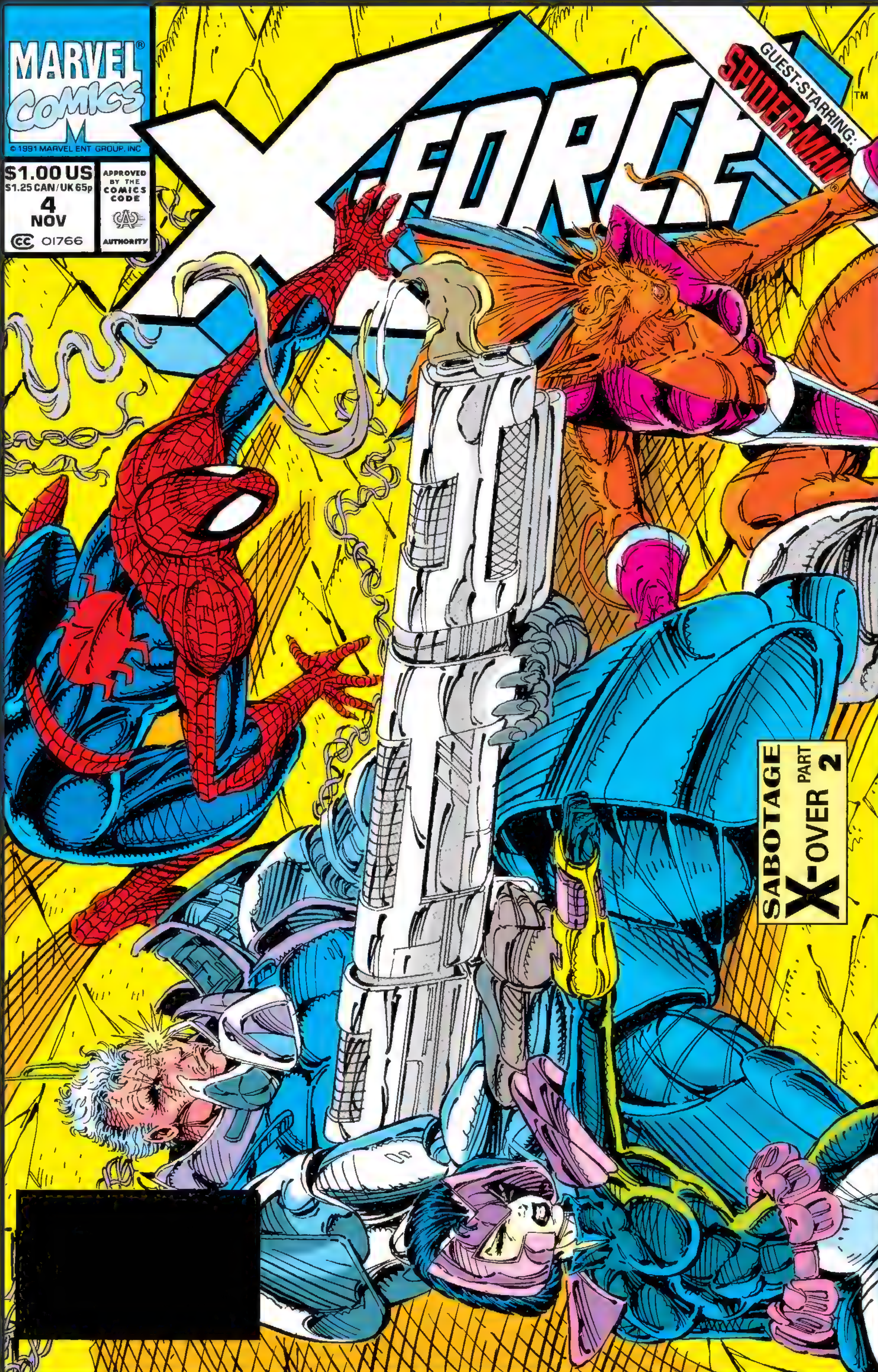
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AUTHORITY

GUEST-STARRING:
SPIDER-MAN

SABOTAGE
PART
X-OVER 2



MANHATTAN. PICK IT
UP AS YOU GO ALONG.

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY
IDEA HOW TIRED I AM OF
ALL THIS GRATUITOUS
FIGHTING?

NO, DO YOU HAVE
ANY IDEA HOW
MUCH I'M ENJOY-
ING IT?

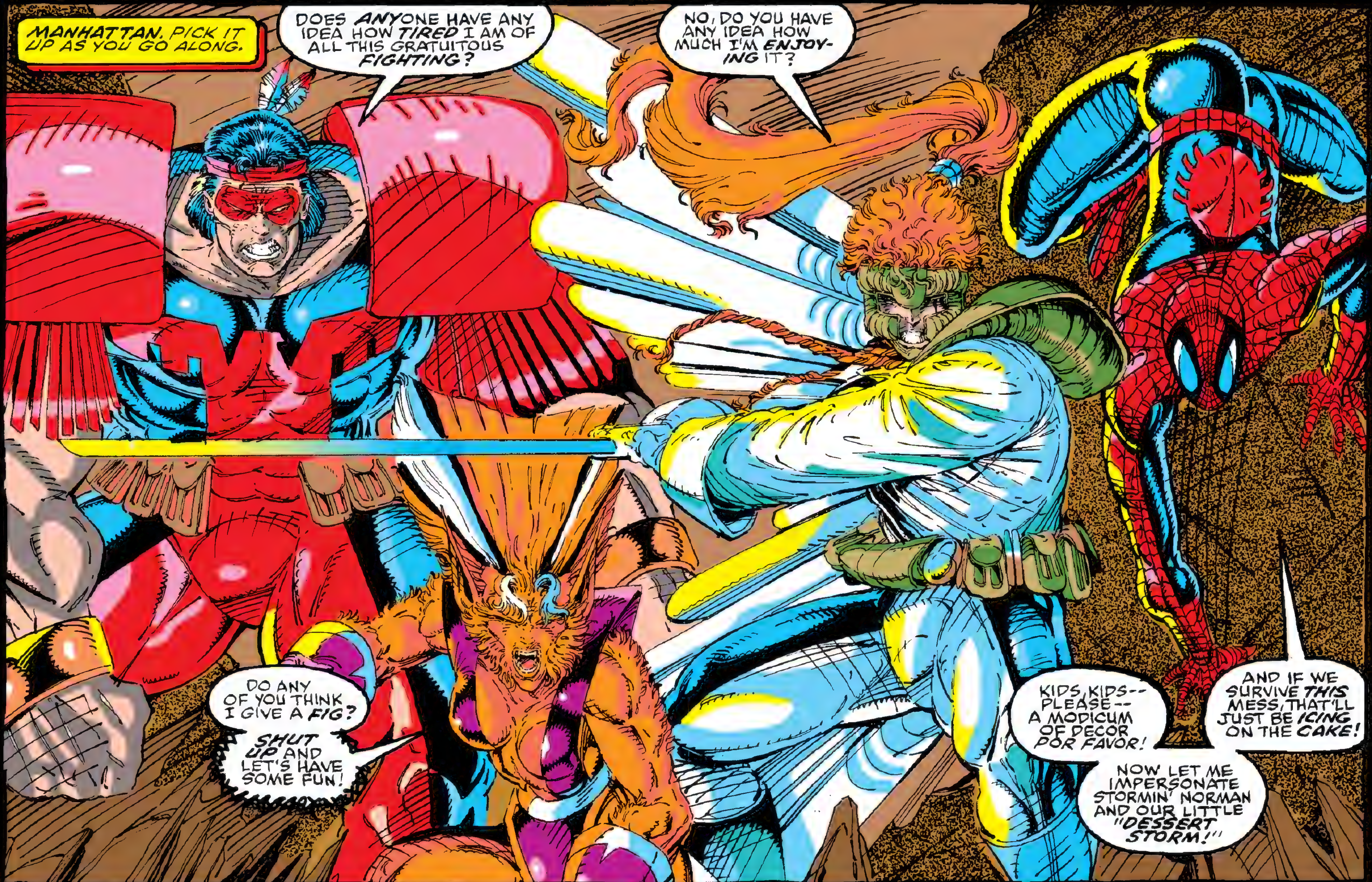
DO ANY
OF YOU THINK
I GIVE A FIG?

SHUT
UP AND
LET'S HAVE
SOME FUN!

KIDS, KIDS--
PLEASE--
A MODICUM
OF DECOR
FOR FAVOR!

NOW LET ME
IMPERSONATE
STORMIN' NORMAN
AND OUR LITTLE
"DESSERT
STORM!"

AND IF WE
SURVIVE THIS
MESS, THAT'LL
JUST BE ICING
ON THE CAKE!



SABOTAGE: PART 2

IF YOU FEELS
SURVIVE, IT'LL BE
A BONAFIDE
MIRACLE!!

THE SITUATION:
MUTANT TERRORISTS,
BLACK TOM CASSIDY
AND JUGGERNAUT
HAVE BLOWN UP ONE
OF THE TWIN TOWERS
OF THE WORLD TRADE
CENTER.

THE PLAYERS:
FIGHTING FOR THEIR
LIVES ON THE
GROUND, ARE MUTANT
REBEL X-FORCE
MEMBERS SHATTER-
STAR, WARPATH
AND FERAL, LED BY
YOUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD,
SPIDER-MAN!

THIS IYF JAM
IS BROUGHT TO
YOU BY:

ROB LIEFELD
PLOT
/ART

FABIAN NICIEZA
BALLOON
STUFFER

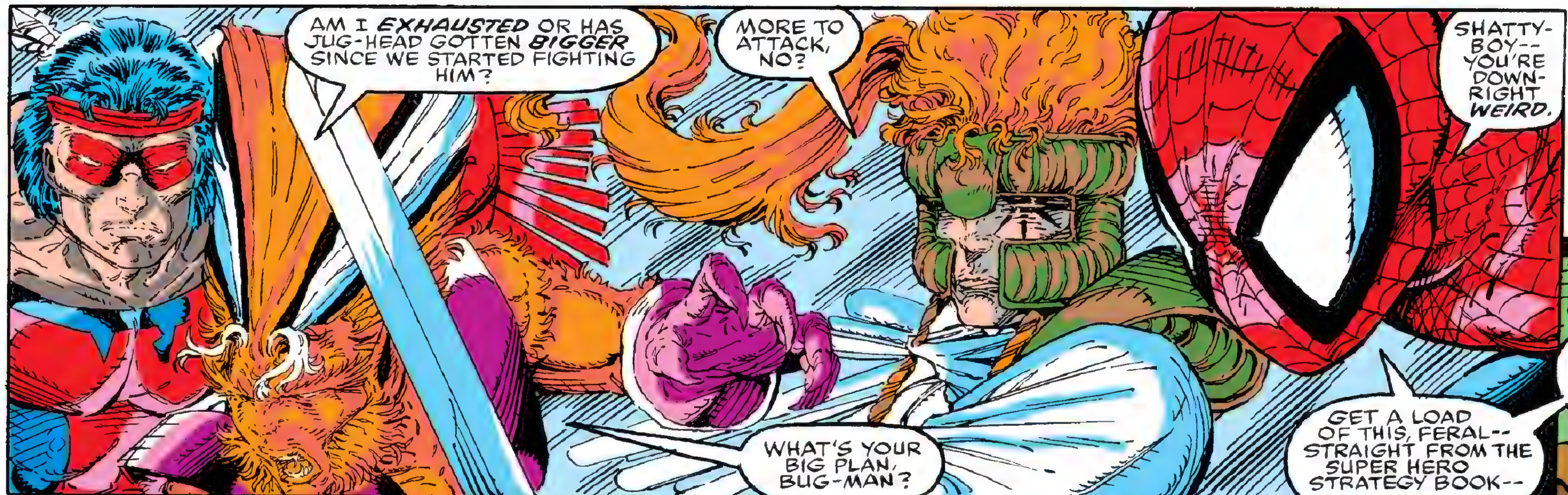
ROSEN/
ELIOPOLLOS
PRINT AND BIGGER PRINT

BRIAN MURRAY
STAYS INSIDE
THE LINES

BOB HARRAS
RECOVERING
NICELY

TOM DEFALCO
LOST, BUT
HAPPY

X-FORCE
created by
Rob Liefeld



AM I **EXHAUSTED** OR HAS
JUG-HEAD GOTTEN **BIGGER**
SINCE WE STARTED FIGHTING
HIM?

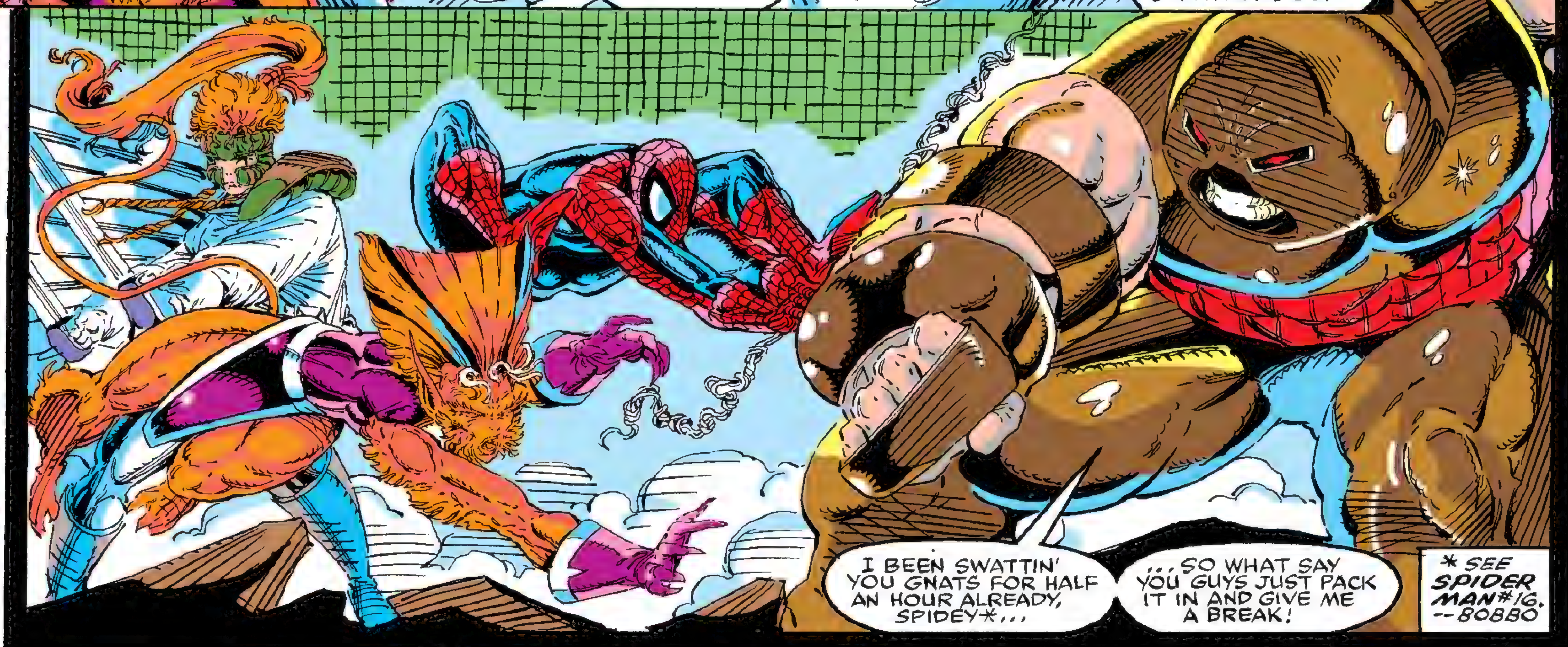
MORE TO
ATTACK,
NO?

SHATTY-
BOY--
YOU'RE
DOWN-
RIGHT
WEIRD.

WHAT'S YOUR
BIG PLAN,
BUG-MAN?

GET A LOAD
OF THIS, FERAL--
STRAIGHT FROM THE
SUPER HERO
STRATEGY BOOK--

-- EVERY-
BODY DOG-
PILE ON THE
JUGGER-
NAUT!!



I BEEN SWATTIN'
YOU GNATS FOR HALF
AN HOUR ALREADY,
SPIDEY*...

SO WHAT SAY
YOU GUYS JUST PACK
IT IN AND GIVE ME
A BREAK!

* SEE
**SPIDER
MAN#16.**
--BOBBO



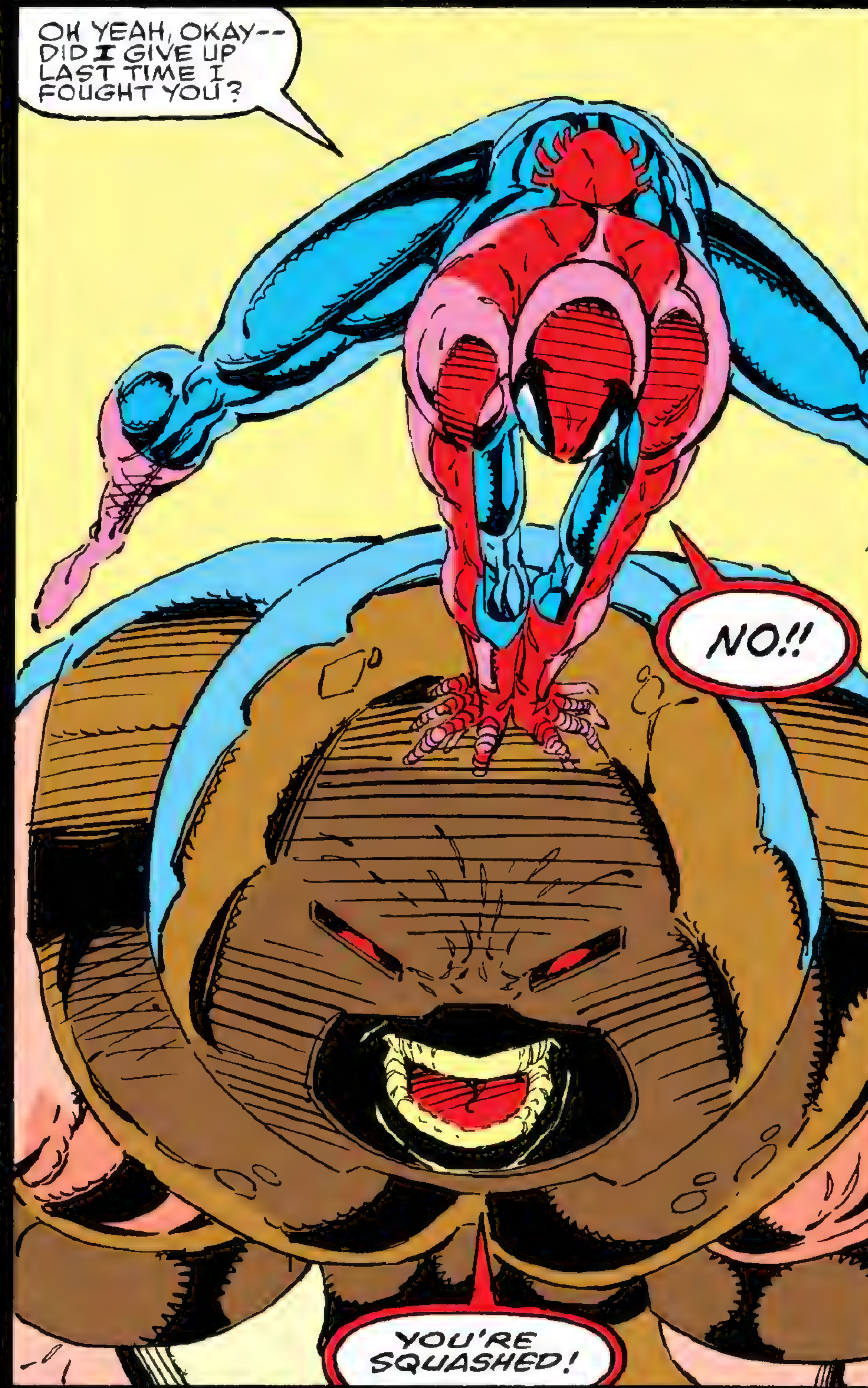
AW, C'MON NOW, JUGGY-- YOU **KNOW** WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE UP!
WE'RE NOT ALLOWED!

DID FRANCE GIVE UP IN WORLD WAR II?

DID CUSTER WALK AWAY FROM LITTLE BIG HORN?

DID-- HECK, I CAN'T THINK OF ANY MORE WITTY LINES!

KTHROOM



OH YEAH, OKAY-- DID I GIVE UP LAST TIME I FOUGHT YOU?

NO!!

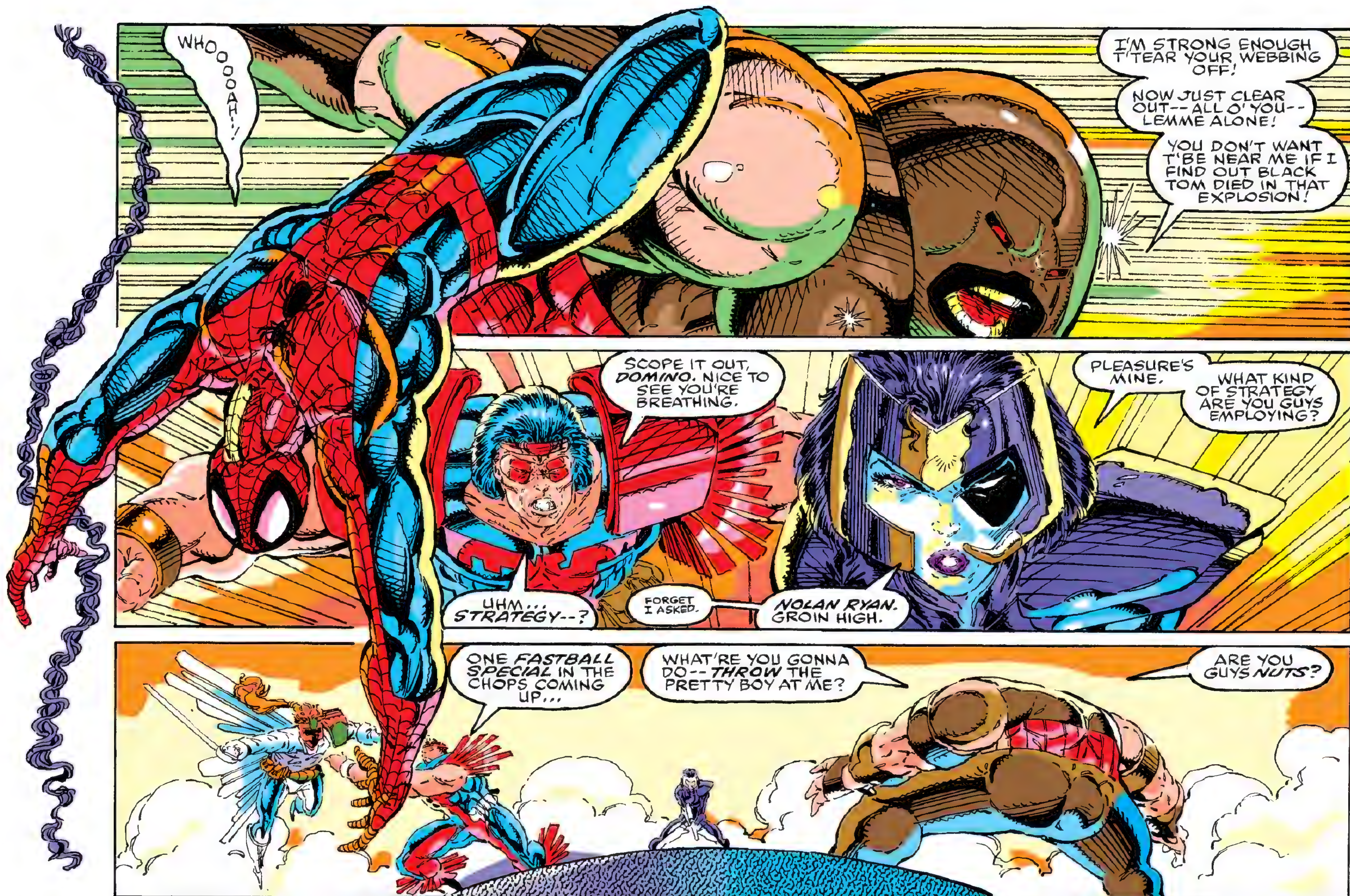
YOU'RE SQUASHED!



NO, I AM NOT, SIR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH THIS NICE, THICK GOOBERY **WEB-FLUID** IN YOUR EYES, IT'S NO SURPRISE YOU CAN'T TELL!

THWIPP



WHO-O-O-AH!

I'M STRONG ENOUGH
T' TEAR YOUR WEBBING
OFF!

NOW JUST CLEAR
OUT-- ALL O' YOU--
LEMMIE ALONE!

YOU DON'T WANT
T' BE NEAR ME IF I
FIND OUT BLACK
TOM DIED IN THAT
EXPLOSION!

SCOPE IT OUT,
DOMINO. NICE TO
SEE YOU'RE
BREATHING.

PLEASURE'S
MINE.

WHAT KIND
OF STRATEGY
ARE YOU GUYS
EMPLOYING?

UHM...
STRATEGY--?

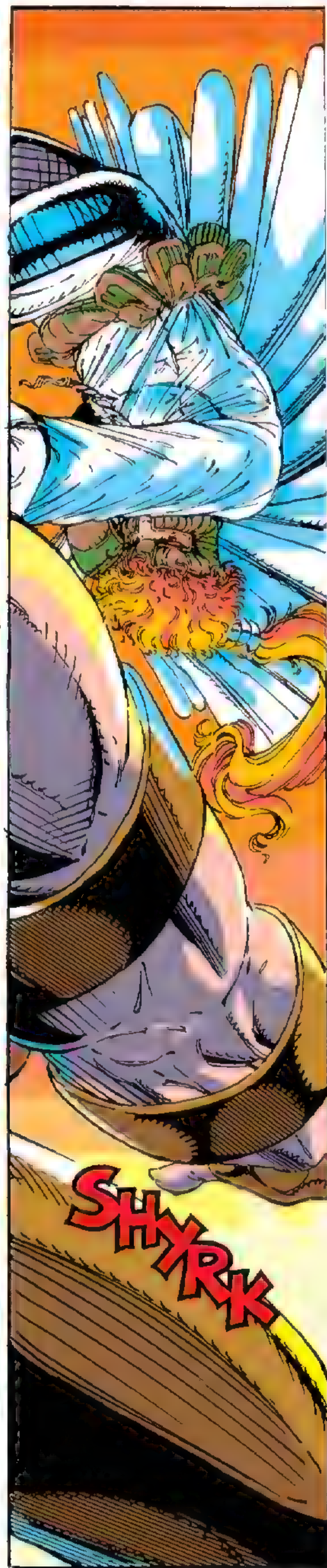
FORGET
I ASKED.

NOLAN RYAN.
GROIN HIGH.

ONE FASTBALL
SPECIAL IN THE
CHOPS COMING
UP...

WHAT'RE YOU GONNA
DO-- THROW THE
PRETTY BOY AT ME?

ARE YOU
GUYS NUTS?



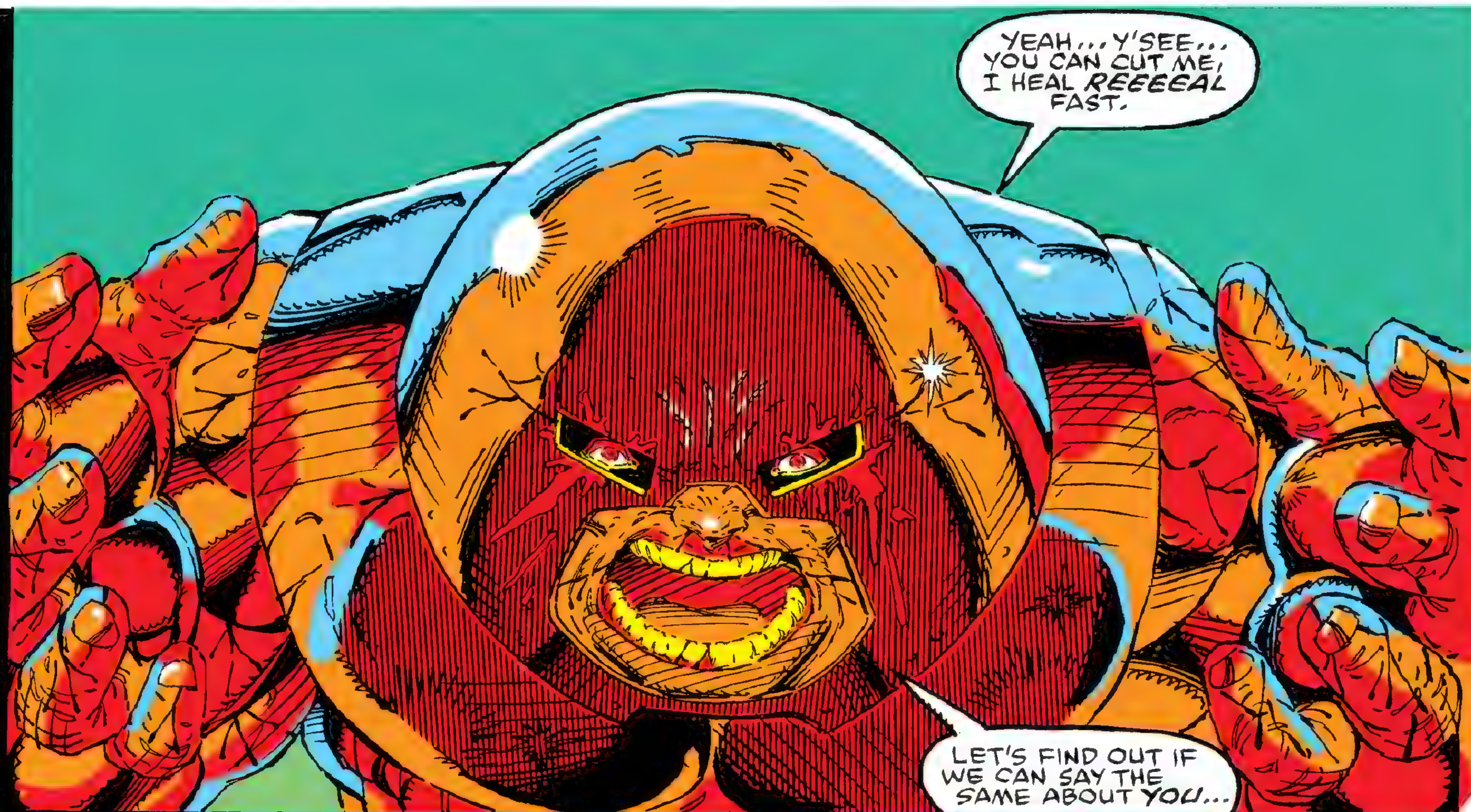


BIG MISTAKE,
PRETTY-BOY,

SO SAYS
THE PIN-
CUSHION.

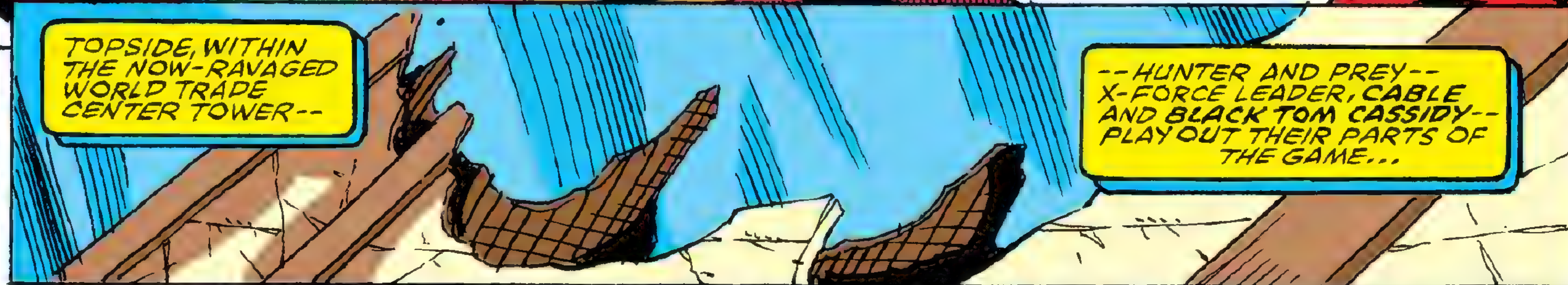
FOR ALL YOUR
HYPERBOLIC
RHETORIC, YOU
STILL HAVE YET
TO DOWN A
SINGLE MEMBER
OF MY BATTALION...

...WHILE I
FREELY SHRED
YOU TO
RIBBONS!



YEAH...Y'SEE...
YOU CAN CUT ME,
I HEAL REEEAL
FAST.

LET'S FIND OUT IF
WE CAN SAY THE
SAME ABOUT YOU...



TOPSIDE, WITHIN
THE NOW-RAVAGED
WORLD TRADE
CENTER TOWER--

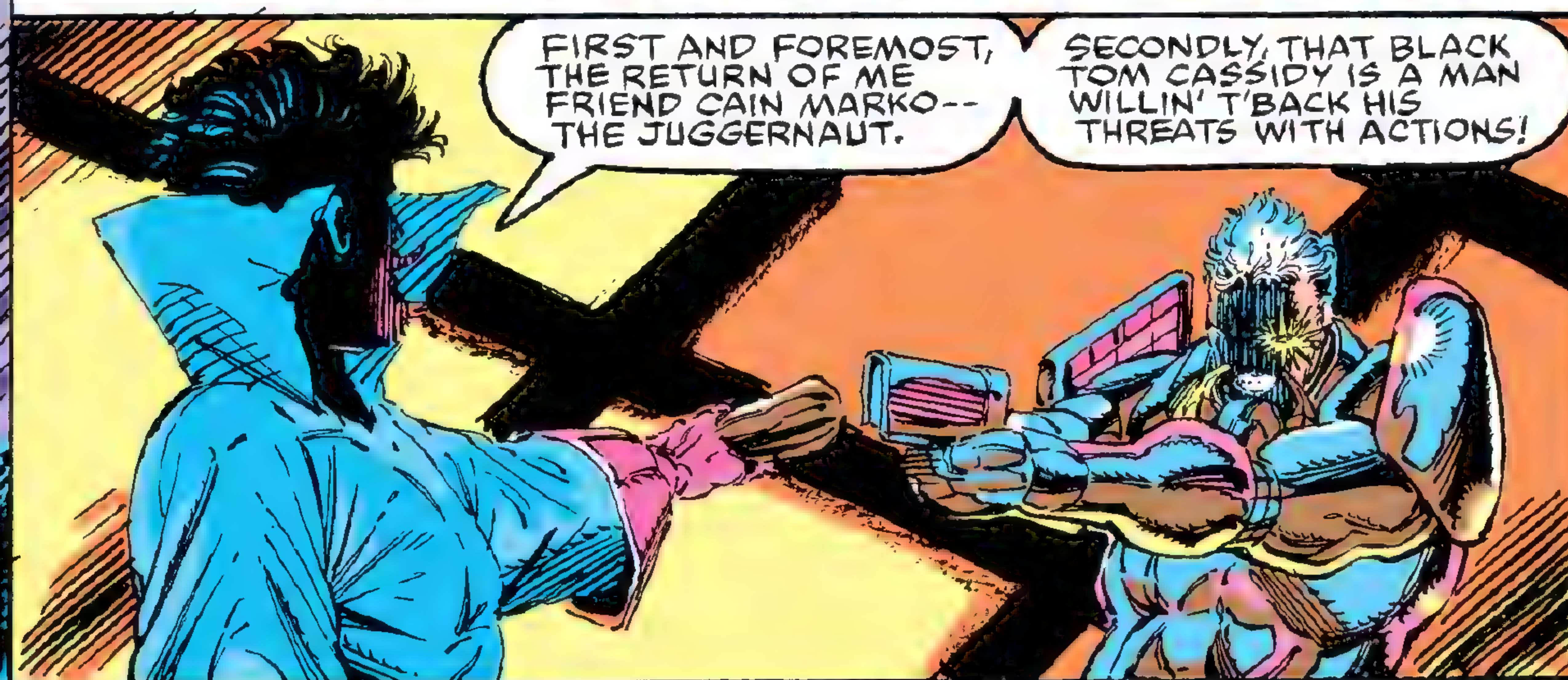
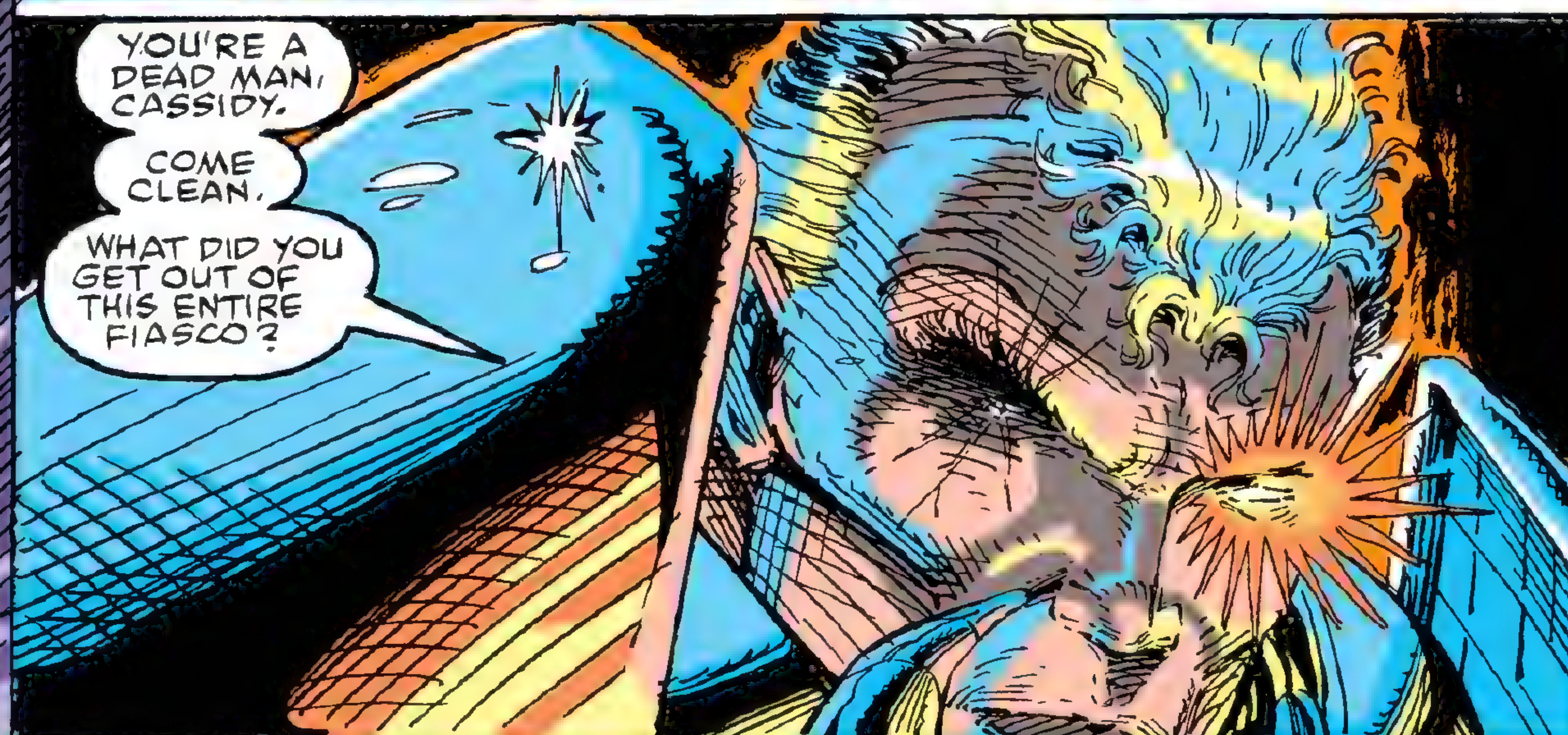
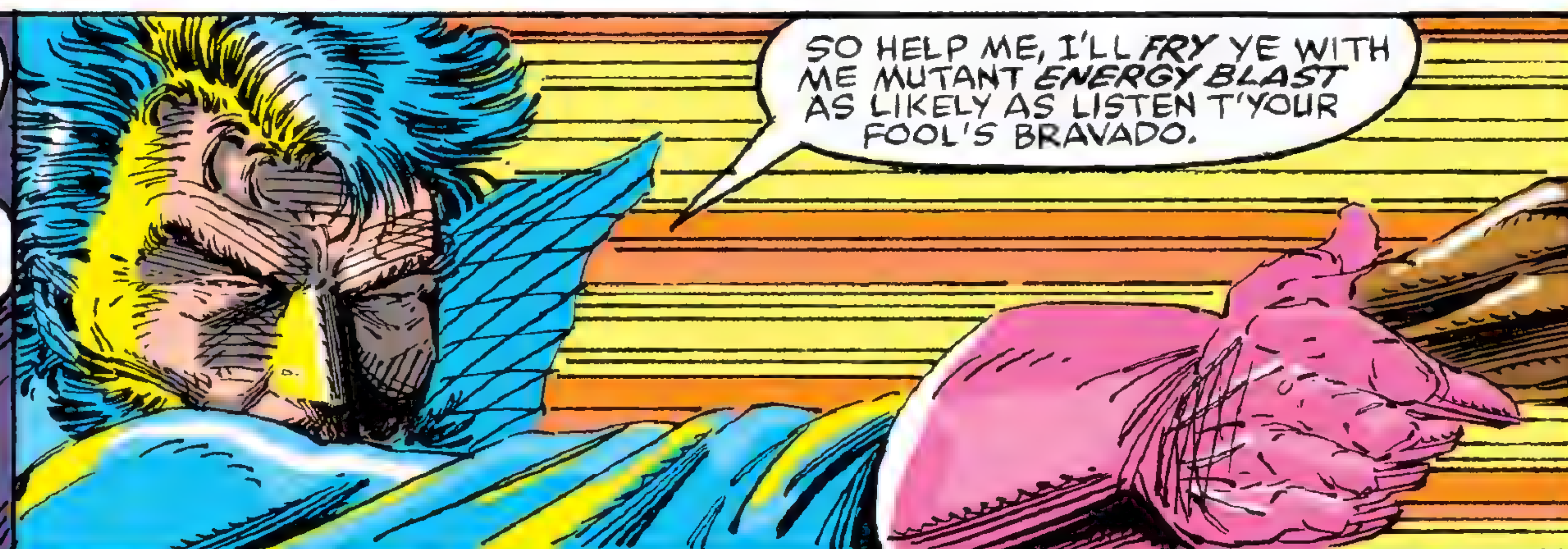
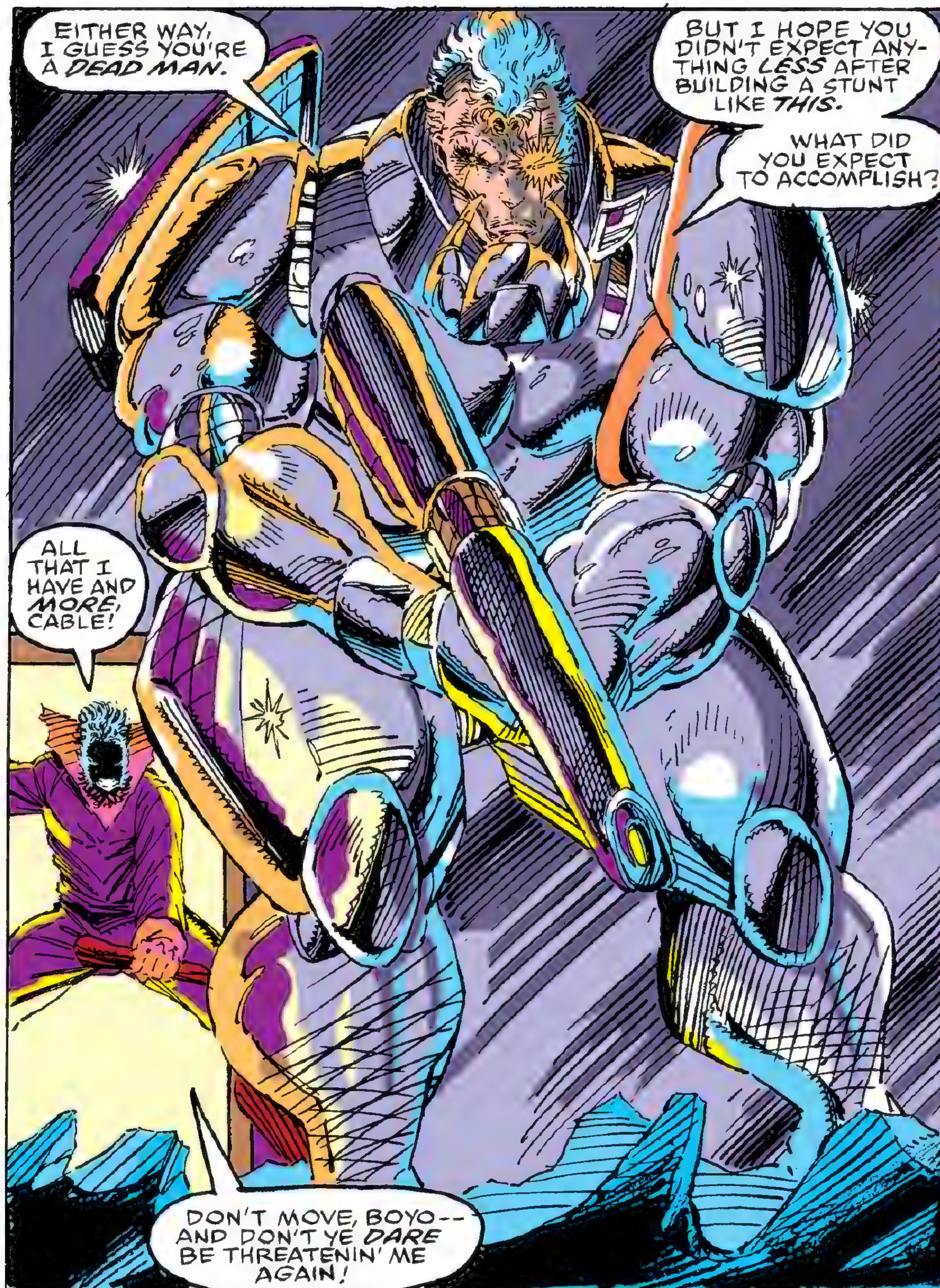
-- HUNTER AND PREY--
X-FORCE LEADER, CABLE
AND BLACK TOM CASSIDY--
PLAY OUT THEIR PARTS OF
THE GAME...

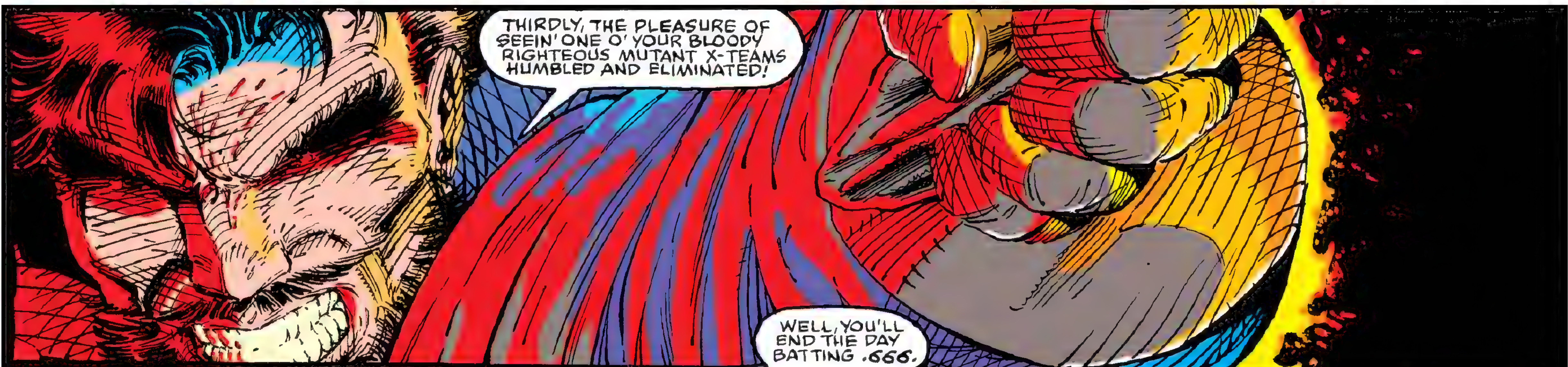


-- WHILE BOOM BOOM AND
CANNONBALL HELP THE
SURVIVORS OF TOWER
EXPLOSION--

CASSIDY--!

PLAY IT ONE OF TWO
WAYS--GIVE YOURSELF
UP AND DIE OR MAKE
ME COME AFTER YOU
TO KILL YOU.





THIRDLY, THE PLEASURE OF
SEEIN' ONE O' YOUR BLOODY
RIGHTEOUS MUTANT X-TEAMS
HUMBLED AND ELIMINATED!

WELL, YOU'LL
END THE DAY
BATTING .666.

NOT BAD FOR A
MINOR LEAGUER.

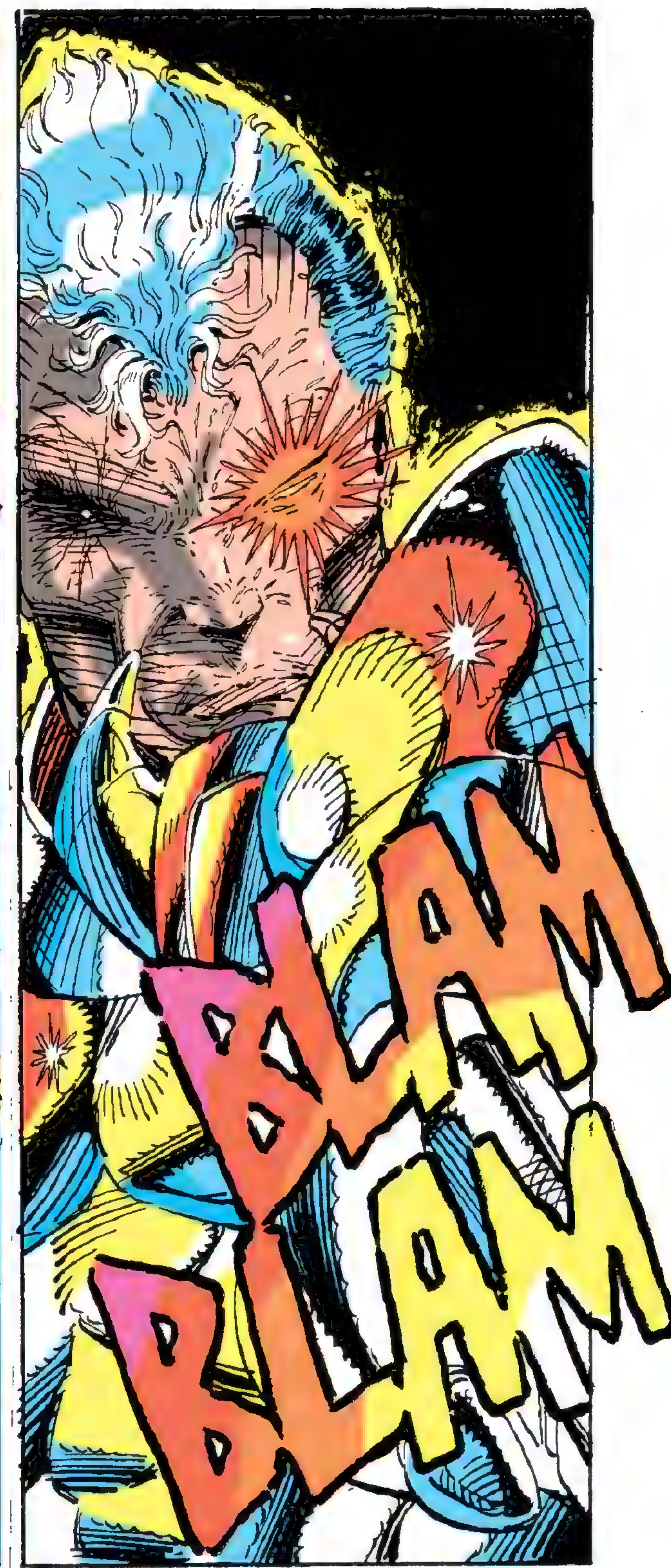
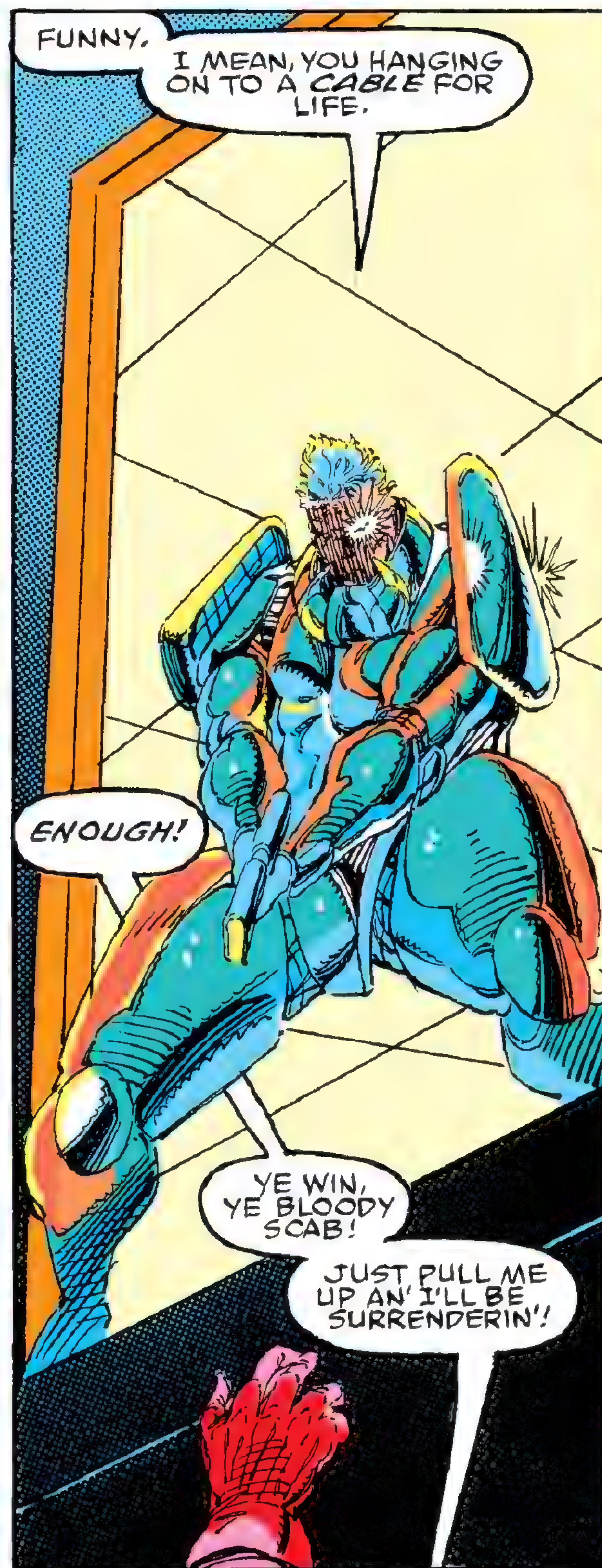
BUT NOT GOOD
ENOUGH TO PLAY
WITH THE BIG
BOYS.

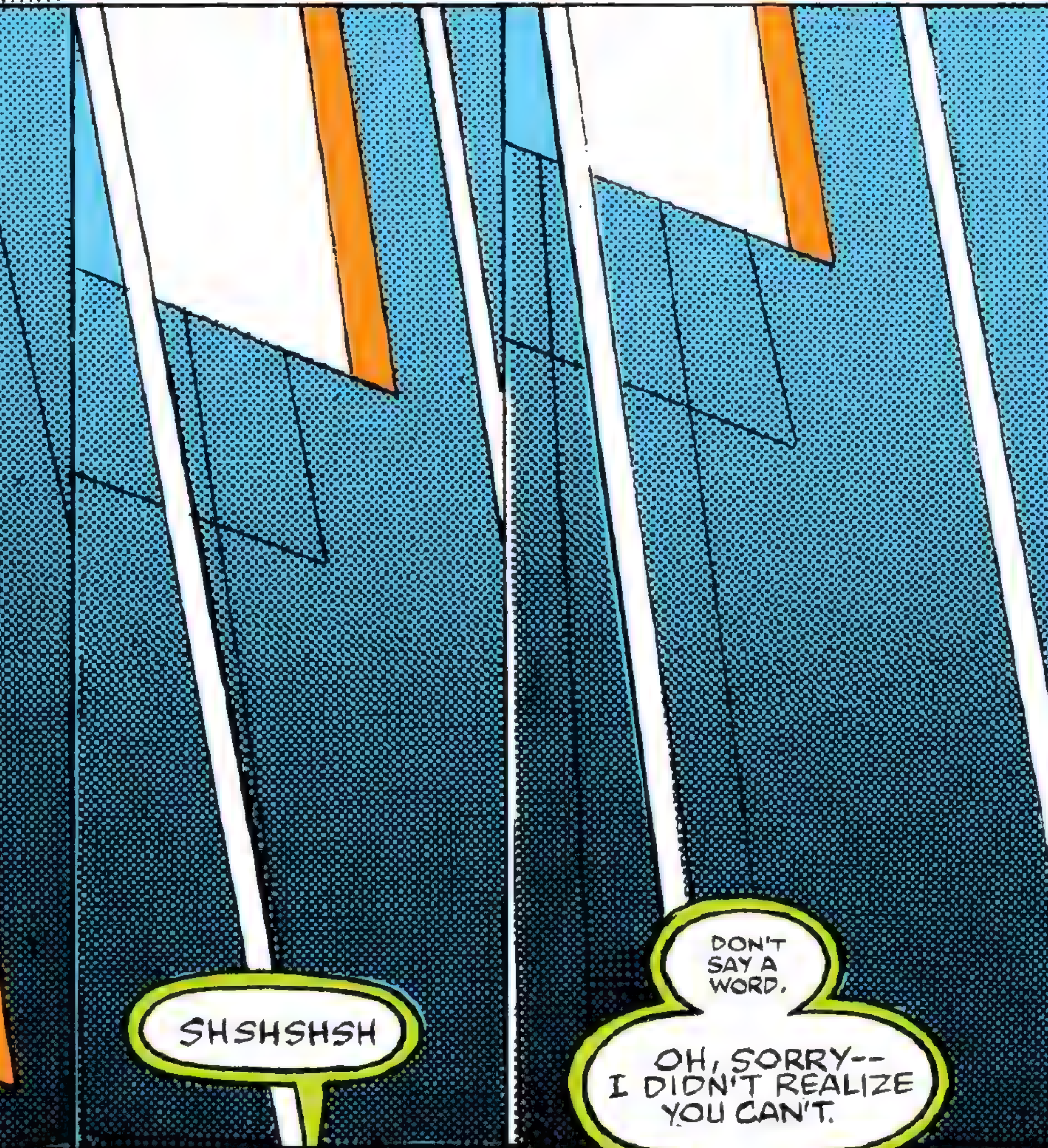
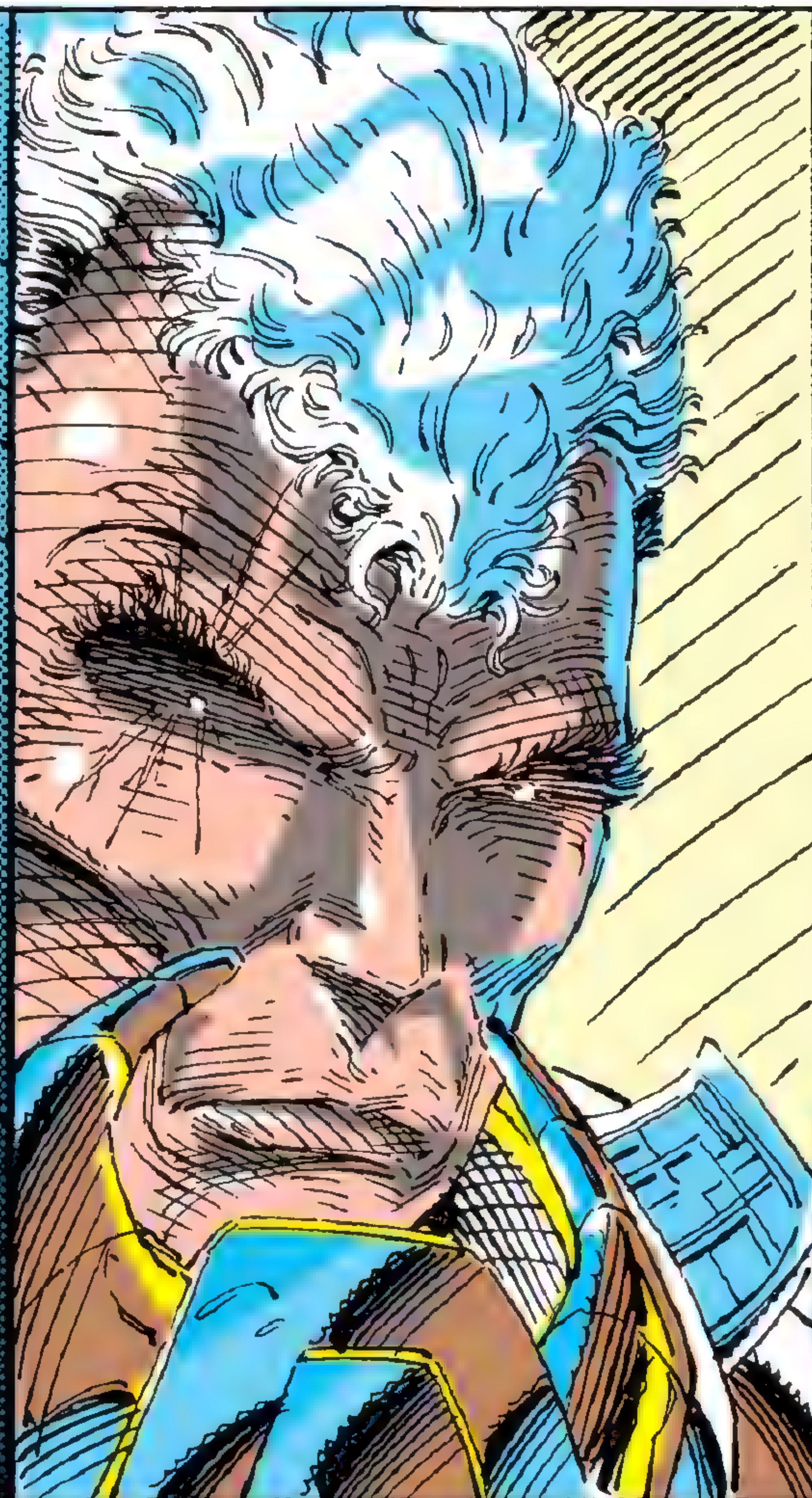
NOW,
THEN...
MAKE ME
A HAPPY
MAN.

WITH
PLEASURE!



SHFYAKT KRAKOOOM





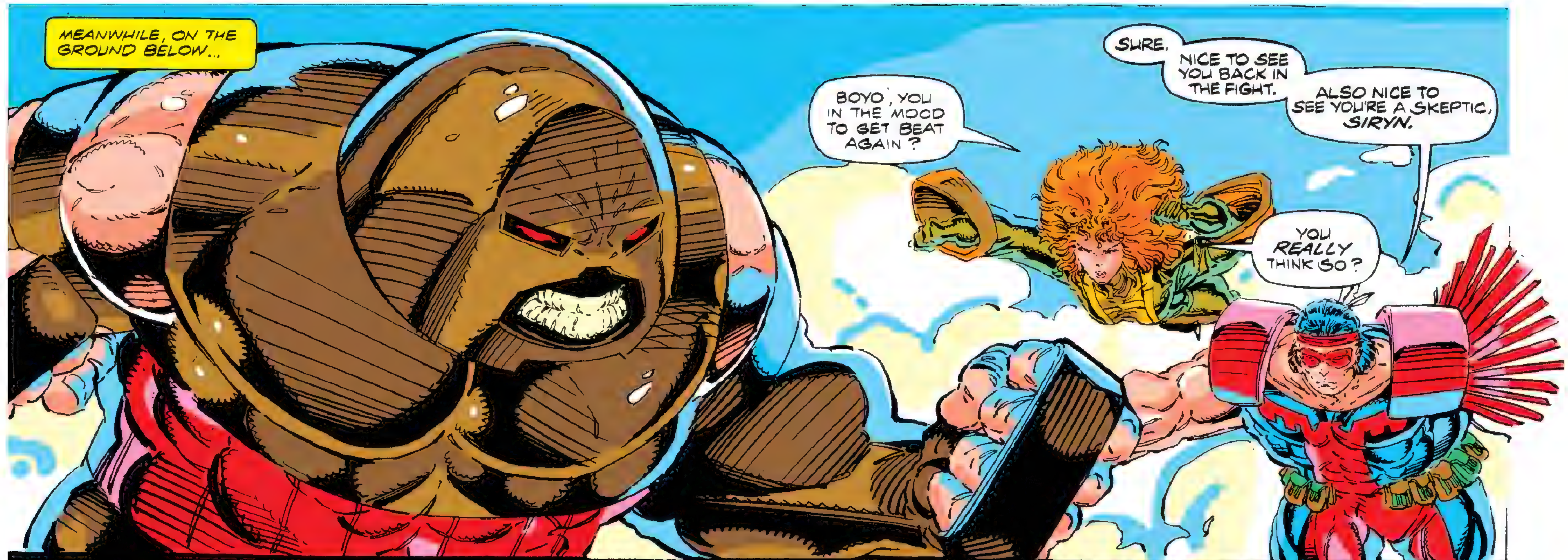
SHSHSHSH

DON'T SAY A WORD.
OH, SORRY-- I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU CAN'T.
GROSS.



YOU'RE COMING WITH ME. MR. TOLLIVER HAS YOU ON HIS HIT-LIST.

AND STOP BLEEDING ON ME.



MEANWHILE, ON THE
GROUND BELOW...

BOYO, YOU
IN THE MOOD
TO GET BEAT
AGAIN?

SURE.

NICE TO SEE
YOU BACK IN
THE FIGHT.

ALSO NICE TO
SEE YOU'RE A SKEPTIC,
SIRYN.

YOU
REALLY
THINK SO?



AH PREFER
I THINK OMYSELF
AS AN
OPTIMISTIC
CYNIC.

DOES THAT
MEAN YOU'D DIE
HAPPY OR
BECOME A
BITTER
SURVIVOR?

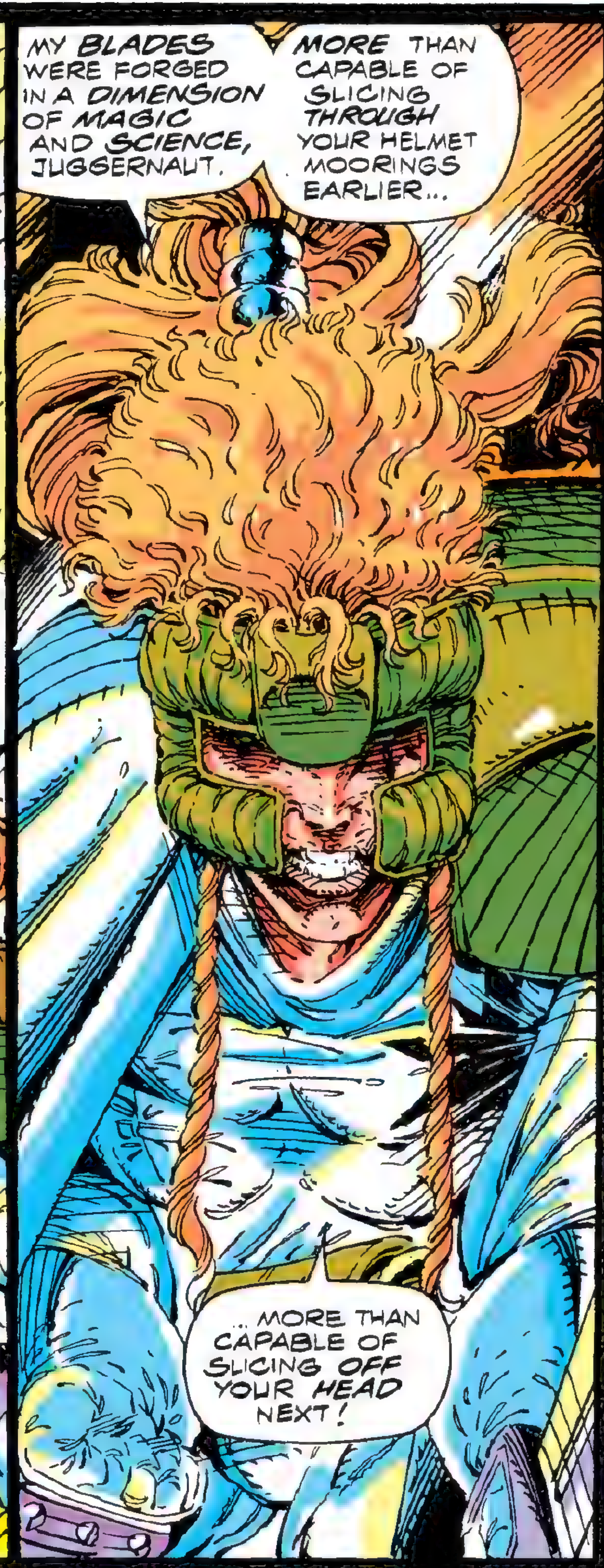
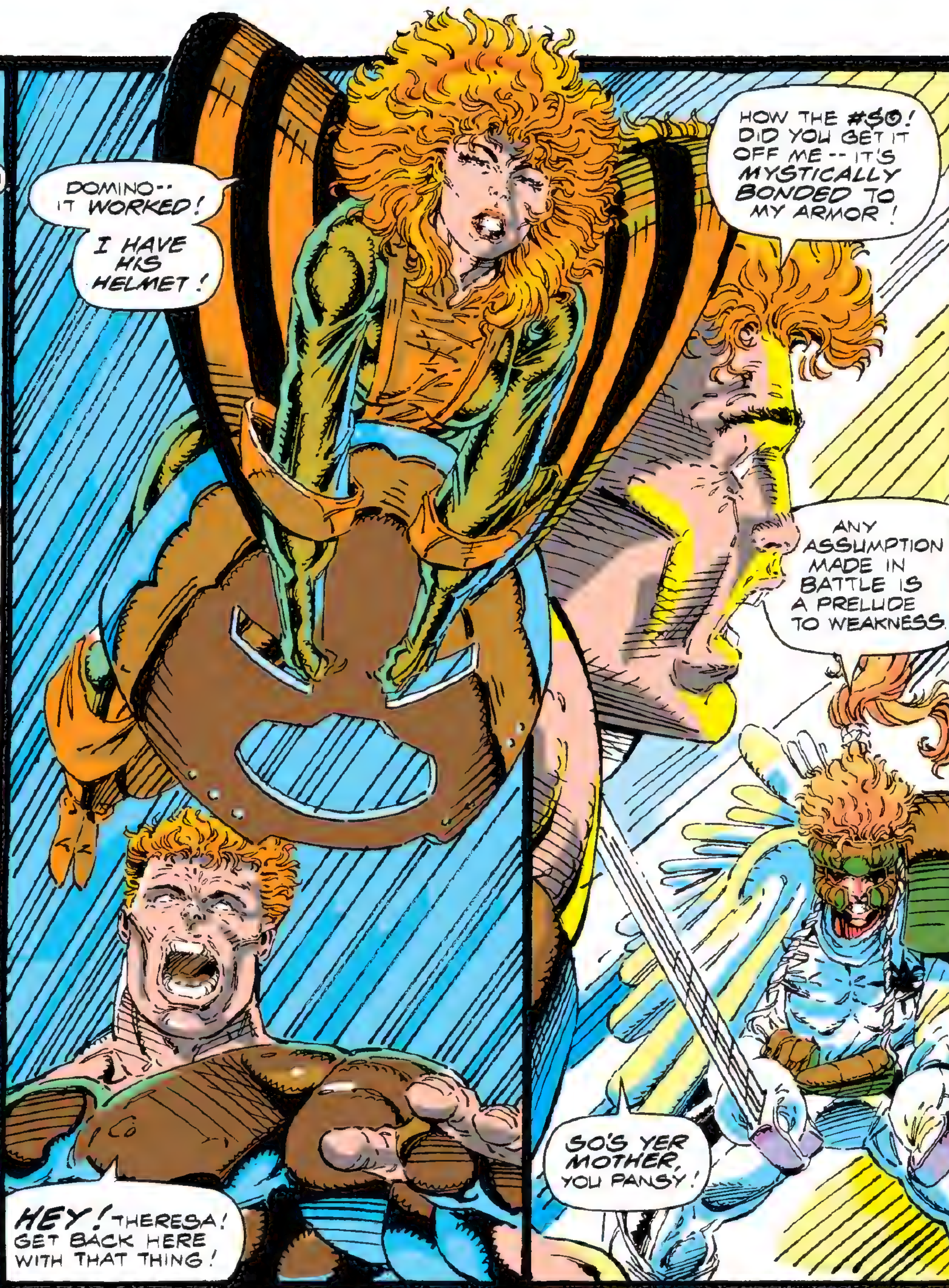
YOU GETTING
ALL THIS,
BALABAN?

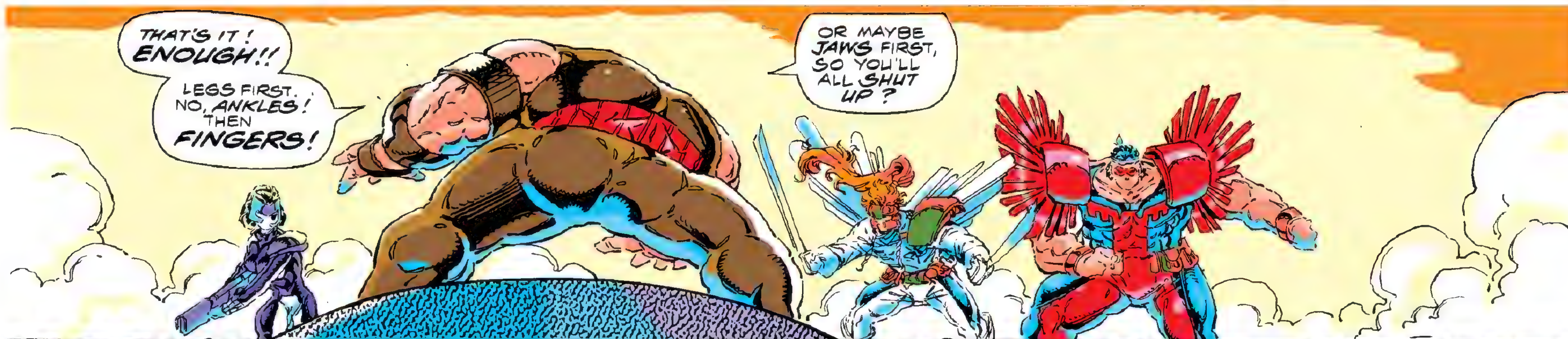
OMNI-DIRECTIONAL
MIKES ARE PICKING
UP EVERYTHING
THEY SAY, COLONEL
BRIDGE.

GOOD. EVERY SLIP
OF THE LIP WILL
GIVE US MORE
TO GO ON.

AND THE MORE WE HAVE
TO GO ON, THE EASIER
IT'LL BE TO BRING CABLE
DOWN!

WUSPWUSPWUSPWUSP





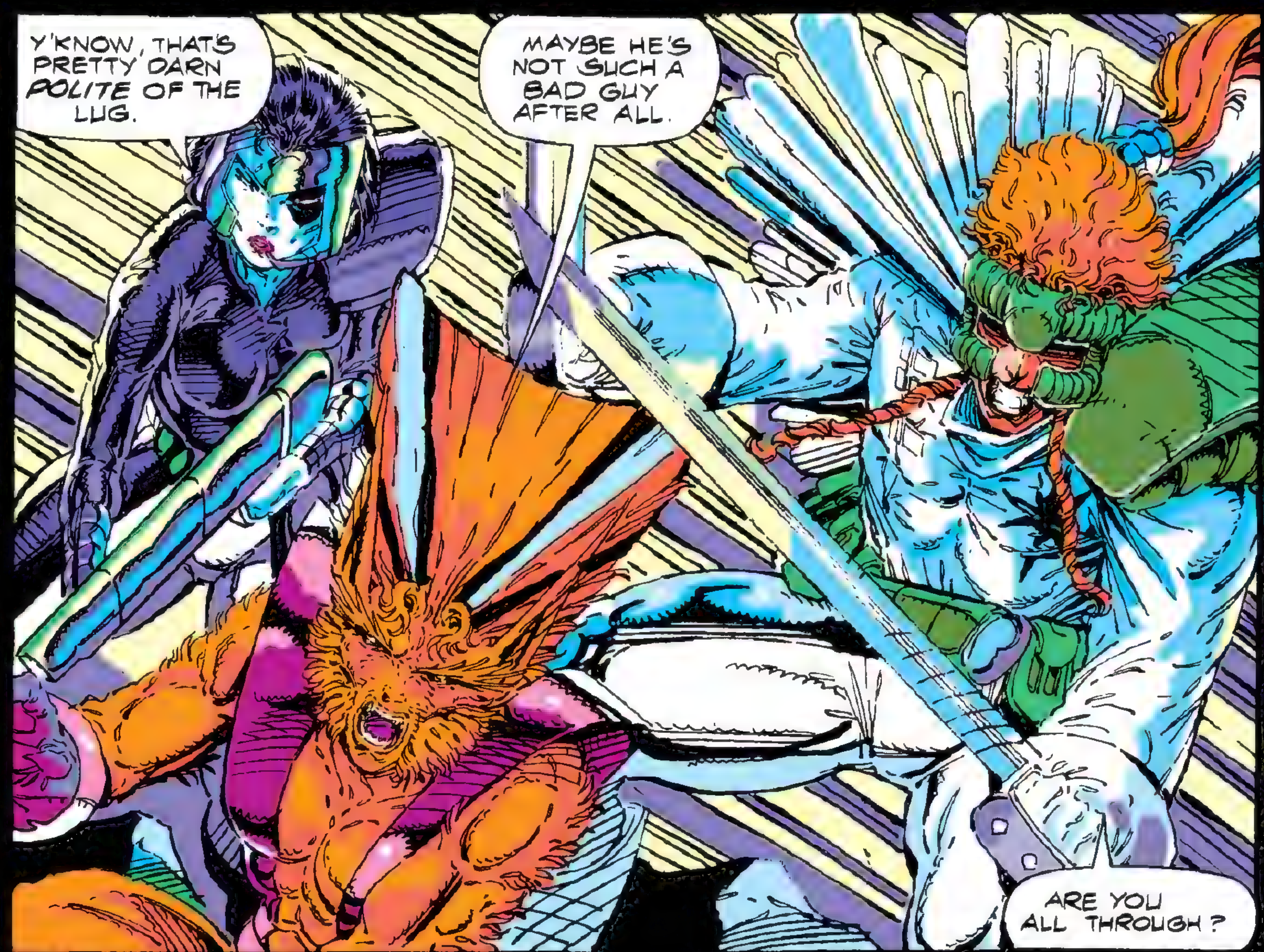
THAT'S IT!
ENOUGH!!

LEGS FIRST.
NO, ANKLES!
THEN
FINGERS!

OR MAYBE
JAWS FIRST,
SO YOU'LL
ALL SHUT
UP?



TELL YOU WHAT,
HOWZABOUT I
LET YOU DECIDE
WHICH BONES I'M
GOING TO BREAK
IN WHICH ORDER!



Y'KNOW, THAT'S
PRETTY DARN
POLITE OF THE
LUG.

MAYBE HE'S
NOT SUCH A
BAD GUY
AFTER ALL.

ARE YOU
ALL THROUGH?

HOW ABOUT
IF YOU BEGIN
WITH ME,
MARKO?

BECAUSE QUITE
FRANKLY, I AM SO
SICK AND TIRED
OF DEALING WITH
BLATANT **STUPIDITY**
OF YOUR KIND OF
MUTANT...

...AND SICK OF
YOU, TOO! HOW
MANY TIMES WILL
WE HAVE TO
DANCE THE SAME
DANCE, **OVER**
AND **OVER**
AGAIN?

NO WINNERS, NO
LOSERS -- JUST
THE TWO OF US
PLAYING THE
PART OF **FOOLS**.

NOW IF YOU TAKE ME
ON FIRST AND KILL
ME, AT LEAST YOU'LL
PUT ME OUT OF MY
MISERY!

... LIKE I ALREADY
DID TO YOUR GOOD
FRIEND UP IN THE
TRADE TOWER...

... THEN WE'RE
ALL DONE, NICE
AND NEAT.

SO TELL
ME HOW
YOU PLAN
TO DIE,
CAIN...

... AND I'LL
TELL YOU HOW
GOOD A
FORTUNE TELLER
YOU ARE...

OF COURSE, IF I TAKE
CARE OF YOU FIRST,
WHICH WOULD BE A
NICE **TWIST** ON
THINGS...



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
TALKIN' ABOUT,
BUDDY--

--BUT IF YOU'RE
TELLIN' ME TOM
CASSIDY IS
DEAD--

--AND YOU'RE
TAKIN' CREDIT
FOR IT-- THEN
I'M GONNA
HAVE TO--

GEEZ... THESE
GUYS TALK
MORE'N I DO,
BUT I NEED
YOU, MR.
MARKO...

... TIME TO
SAY
GOODBYE.



HE
TELEPORTED
AWAY?

WHY DO
THEY ALL
TELEPORT
AWAY?

IN, OUT, IN,
OUT-- CAN'T
EVEN END
A DECENT
FIGHT
ANYMORE!



UHM... YOU SURE
IT'S SUCH A BAD
THING THAT EGG-
HEAD TOOK A
POWDER?

I, FOR ONE, WAS
HOPING TO INVITE
HIM HOME FOR
DINNER.

BRRR-- JUST
PICTURED
MYSELF ON
"DIVORCE
COURT!"
SCARY.

"HI, HONEY, I'M
HOME-- AND LOOK
WHAT I BROUGHT
WITH ME!"

HEY, LOOKS
LIKE WE'VE GOT
COMPANY.

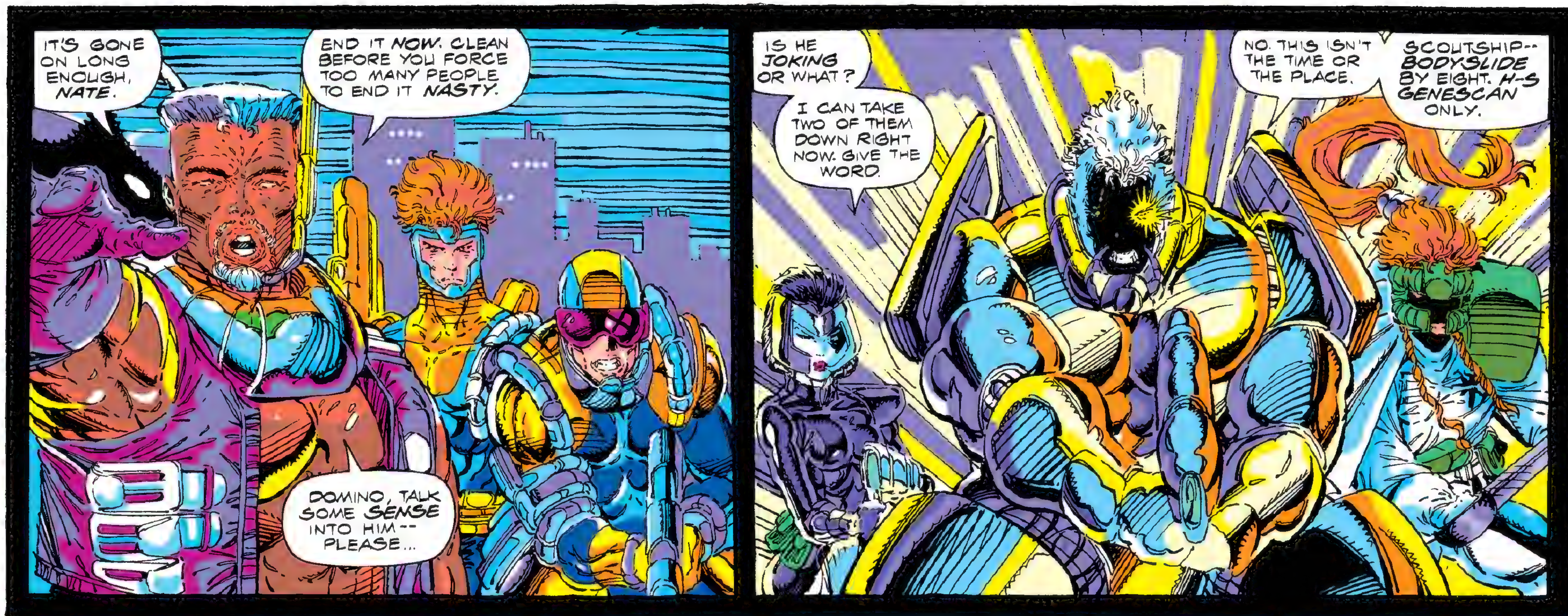


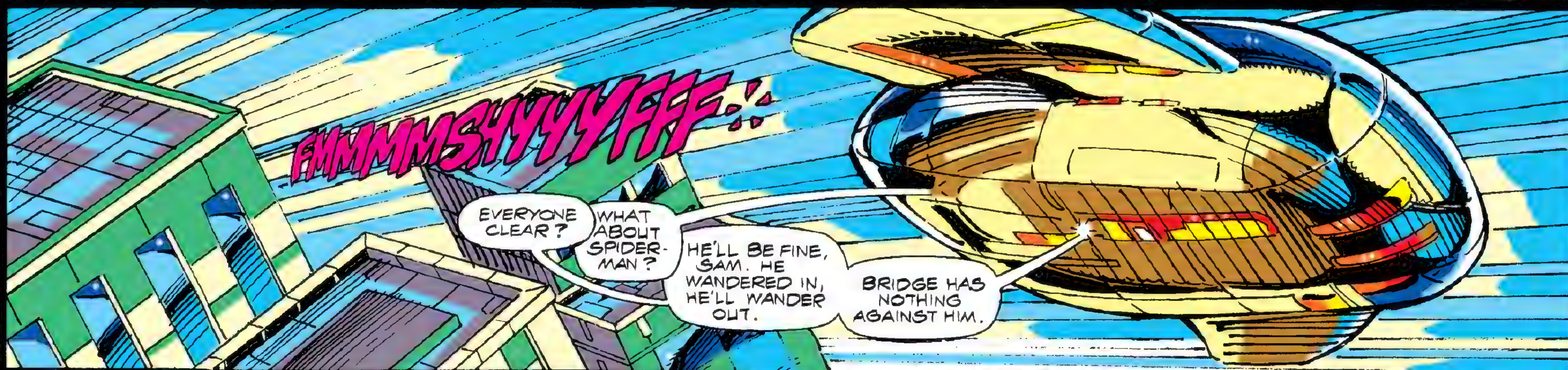
CABLE-- IN THE NAME OF THE
STRATEGIC HAZARD INTER-
VENTION, ESPIONAGE,
LOGISTICS DIRECTORATE--

-- YOU ARE
HEREBY
UNDER
ARREST!

BRIDGE?
BRIDGE!

FRIEND OF
YOURS?





EVERYONE
CLEAR?

WHAT
ABOUT
SPIDER-
MAN?

HE'LL BE FINE,
SAM. HE
WANDERED IN,
HE'LL WANDER
OUT.

BRIDGE HAS
NOTHING
AGAINST HIM.

AND WHAT
DOES HE
HAVE AGAINST
YOU?

WHAT DO THEY
ALL HAVE
AGAINST YOU?

GOOD QUESTION.
I WISH I KNEW
THE ANSWER.

I WISH
YOU'D TELL
ME WHAT
YOU KNOW.



EVERYONE
STRAP IN AND
SHUT UP--
WE WALKED
AWAY FROM
IT, THEY RAN
FROM IT--
LEAVE IT AT
THAT!

NOW LET ME
ENJOY TURNING
ON THE AFTER-
BURNERS!

LET'S BLOW
THIS CLAM-
BAKE AND GO HOME!

FWNSHOOM

CIAO!

NEXT ISSUE:
THE BROTHERHOOD
OF EVIL
MUTANTS RETURNS.

MARVEL® COLLECTOR'S ITEM • ISSUE #1

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1ST ALL-NEW COLLECTOR'S ITEM ISSUE!

SPIDER-MAN

THE LEGEND
OF THE
ARACHKNIGHT

ISSUE
#1
COLLECTOR'S
ITEM

ISSUE
#1
COLLECTOR'S
ITEM



"TORMENT"
PART ONE OF FIVE

McFARLANE
?

SOME VERSIONS OF SPIDER-MAN #1 WERE DISTRIBUTED IN A SEALED POLYBAG, SEEN HERE.

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PART ONE OF FIVE

McFARLANE
?



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THE LEGEND
OF THE
ARACHKNIGHT



"TORMENT"
PART ONE OF FIVE

McFARLANE

THE SPIDER'S ?

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

JIM SALICRUP
ARACHNERD
DAN CUDDY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

Hello there. This is Todd McFarlane. I've decided to write a text page for the first issue (Wait a minute. I thought I asked him to write this!—Jim Salicrup) because if I didn't, they would just run an in-house ad in its place (*No I wouldn't! I would have written this page.*—J.S.), and since I used to hate not seeing a text page on an issue #1 when I was collecting, I figured that I had better appease some of the people who feel the same way.

First, the obvious question. We might as well get it out of the way. Why a fifth Spider-Man book? (—If you count MARVEL TALES.) "Why not?", would be the obvious and easiest answer, and then I would be finished with this text page but since that's not going to fill up very much space, I might as well give you the story of how this new magazine came to be and what you can expect in the future.

I had been on the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN title for about two years and was getting a little antsy. By this I mean that I wanted to expand my horizons as an artist (*Well, la dee da!*—J.S.). I had been penciling for about four years and inking during two of those. As I became more comfortable with the inking, I was looking to get even more involved with a project. The natural next step would be the writing. I discussed co-plotting a book with another writer, but knew that my personal tendencies would only allow me to remain in that capacity until I felt completely comfortable with that too, so instead of finding a book to co-plot, I set about the task of finding one that I could write. Having never written anything in the past, I knew the odds would be against me finding such a book, but I figured I might as well at least try. I figured that I would end up, if I did find an editor who would take me on as a writer, on a lesser known book or one that maybe wasn't a big seller. As fate would have it, such was not to be.

Let me back up a little bit and state that one of the reasons for my deciding to leave THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN book was the bi-weekly summer schedule. I didn't feel I was able to give the best quality work I was capable of during those three months, but at the same time felt obligated to do all fifteen issues per year. This only added to some of the frustrations of my wanting to expand my artistic endeavors. Something had to give. After doing some soul searching, I realized that one of the things that I was tired of was that I was always drawing someone else's ideas. Having been associated with some of the finest writers in the comics industry in my short career, (e.g. Roy Thomas, Peter David and David Michelinie) I knew it wasn't a lack of good ideas or good stories that was frustrating me. Rather, it was the fact that I was drawing their stories and their ideas. While I enjoyed my time with each of these writers, I knew that ultimately I was drawing their ideas when they came up with them. By this I mean that even though the stories were interesting and fun to draw, if I didn't feel like drawing an army scene and there were 28 pages of armies that month, I somehow had to get through the pages. (*Sounds like he's lazy, doesn't it?*—J.S.) During the same time I was getting a stronger feel for my style and knew my weaknesses and strengths so there were times that I was doing something artistically that I wasn't skilled at. Which brings us to the obvious way of getting around it. Write the stories myself.

I phoned Jim Salicrup and announced to him that I was going to leave the book. (*It made my day.*—J.S.) I gave him my reasons but also stated that I enjoyed working with him and still had a fondness for Spider-Man. It was just the fact that I needed to have more input into each story, and didn't feel it would be fair to David to try to squeeze in on his territory. So I quit. I told him I was going to be looking for a book to write or at least co-plot and would stay in touch with him. He brought up an idea, which he had tossed around before, of another Spider-Man book. He had mentioned it to me on previous occasions, but I never really took it seriously. (*Gee, thanks!*—J.S.) He again told me his idea for a new book and wondered whether I would be interested. Sticking to my guns and being somewhat cocky, (*Ahem.*—J.S.) I told him that I would need to write the book if he wanted me to do the artwork. Jim, being the nice guy that he is, said yes. (*I'm no dope.*—J.S.) Let me state that in my two years of working with Jim Salicrup, my biggest complaint about him was that he was too nice. (*Does anyone believe any of this?*—J.S.) So anybody out there who might work with him in the future be wary of this fact. Having been a professional for over four years, I knew that having a good working relationship with your editor was probably one of the most important factors in keeping your mind on your work. Seeing as my biggest gripe with Jim was that he was too accommodating, I figured why try another relation-

ship that would only, at best, match the one that I have in the Spider-Man office. So I graciously accepted Jim's offer to start my writing career with one of the biggest comic book characters ever. (And here I thought I was going to have to start on a lesser book like "Revenge of the Rutabaga" or something.)

Now came the time for me to actually formulate some of the details and present them to Jim. At this point, I came across one of the first drawbacks to doing a fifth Spider-Man book, which was that all the good villains had either appeared, were appearing, or were going to appear in one of the other titles. After some discussion, we finally realized that the Lizard had not been drafted yet and, though he might not be Spidey's best villain, he is still considered one of the classics. I felt that we needed something else to add to the story to give it that little boost, since it was going to be issue #1. That boost came while talking to Glenn Herdling, former assistant to Jim. He said that he was working on a story idea involving an obscure Marvel villain that had some ties to a big name Marvel villain. (The reason I'm not being specific is that I don't want to give away any of the plot for the next five issues.) After seeing Glenn's character sketch I decided that this would be the element that I needed. The final version is contained in the first five issues. (*That'll teach Glenn to blab his story ideas to Todd!*—J.S.)

Changing gears somewhat, I'll try and let you know what it is that I am trying to accomplish. Let me tell you that my strengths lie as a story teller. I don't profess to be a writer, but I do think I can tell a story. What this means (*Okay, we're waiting.* . . —J.S.) is that most of the issues will rely heavily on the artistic side. It will also allow me to draw who I want when I want, so I can get wound up artistically and be even more enthusiastic while I am doing the work. At this time, Jim and I have decided that this book will not tie directly into the continuity of the other Spider-Man books. Mainly because of my lack of experience as a writer, it would not be beneficial for me to be concerned with other matters while I was concentrating on learning how to write. We also decided that we would try and give the feel of a mini-series within a series. So for the most part, the stories will be self contained four or five parters. Some may be longer, some may be shorter, but four to five will be the average. This space will allow me to take an idea and draw it out, mostly for artsy reasons, and give me a chance to explore specific traits of the characters in each story. You will find that, although Spider-Man does have a great cast of supporting characters, I will only focus in on one or two at a time, and only if the story directly involves them. My writing will expand and get better as the months go by, (*At least that's the theory.*—J.S.) but I will strive to present Spider-Man in a fashion not seen before, and thus be able to justify the question of why a fifth Spider-Man book. This justification will be my ultimate goal. (*So much for world peace.*—J.S.)

Now onto some more important stuff. Since I am going to be writing the book, it becomes my task to read all the fan mail and help Jim pick out some to be printed. What I am looking for in the letters is specifics on why you either liked or didn't. For instance, if you say you loved it, tell me what it was you liked. (*Do we really want people to think about this, Todd?*—J.S.) Was it the artwork, certain characters, the motivation, the pacing of the story, or whatever. On the negative side, please be more specific than "it stinks." Unless I know what it is that stinks, I can't correct the problem, so please help me try and make this book more what you want to see by telling me what that is. (*Okay, okay, we get the message.*—J.S.)

I will wrap this up by thanking Marvel Comics and Jim Salicrup (*You're welcome.*—J.S.) for giving me this opportunity because it is more of a risk on their part than on mine. (*Who's he kidding?*—J.S.) I hope you'll come along for the ride.

HEY, CHECK THIS OUT!

We are also looking for a title for the letters page and since you're such an important part of the book, we are going to leave it up to you guys. The person to send in the best suggestion will have that title designed and fancied-up atop every letters page. To entice you to send your suggestions in your letters, the chosen suggestion will be awarded an autographed page of original artwork by Todd McFarlane. So good luck!

SPIDER MANIA

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

JIM SALICRUP
ARACHNERD
DAN CUDDY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

As we go to press on SPIDER-MAN #2, it looks like SPIDER-MAN #1 has become the best selling U.S. comic of all time! And we did it without a major motion picture. As a result, it looks like Spider-Mania has busted out all over. For example—

Besides the biweekly AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, the monthly SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN and WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, the three Spidey Annuals, and MARVEL TALES featuring SPIDER-MAN, we're also tossing a hardcover graphic novel, "Spider-Man: Spirits of the Earth," written, penciled, inked and beautifully painted by Charles Vess, and a trade paperback, "Spider-Man: Fearful Symmetry—Kraven's Last Hunt," at you. All these Spidey publications are on sale now at your favorite comics shop—if they haven't already sold out.

If you liked the cover of SPIDER-MAN #1, you'll be glad to know it's now available as a Marvel Press poster. It contains all the excitement of the original, only it's bigger! And it's available at that very same favorite comics shop we just mentioned.

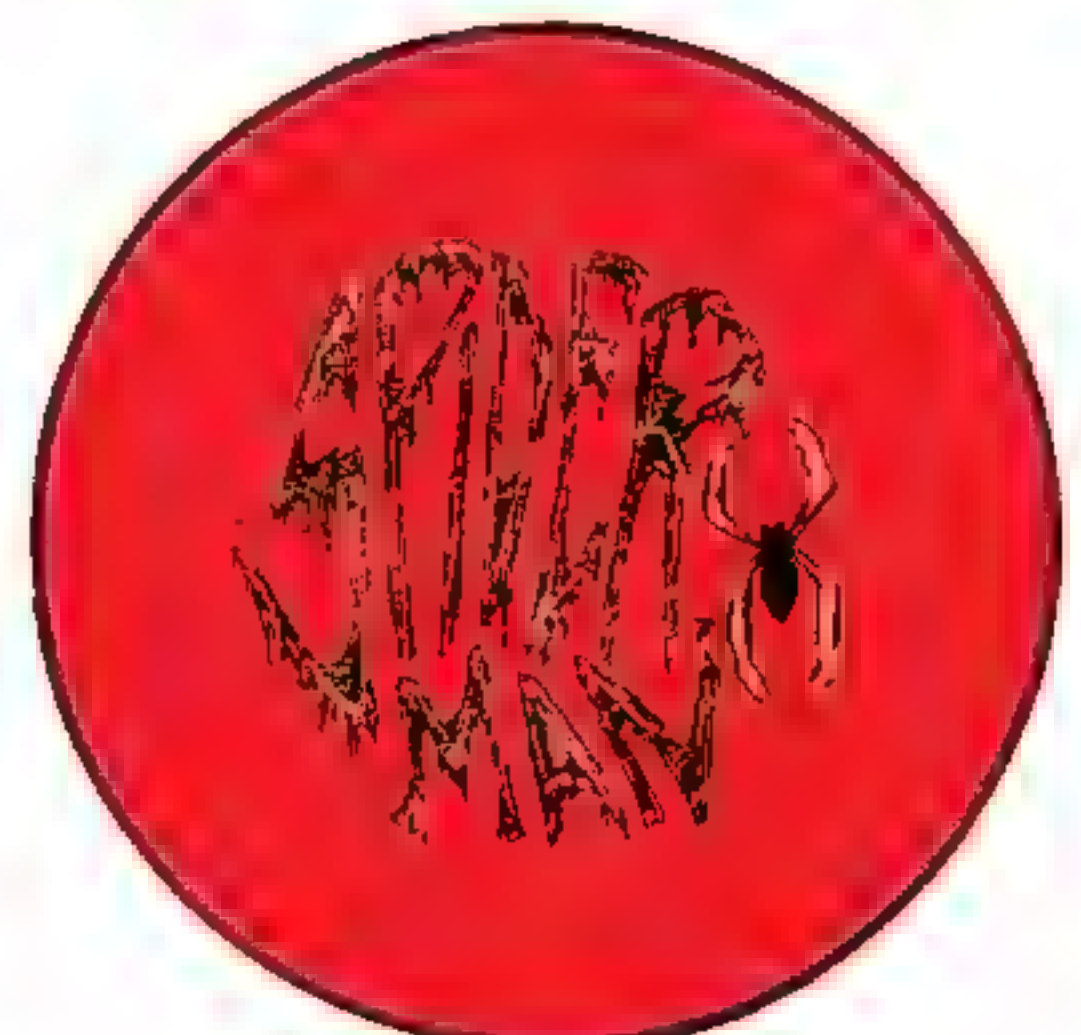
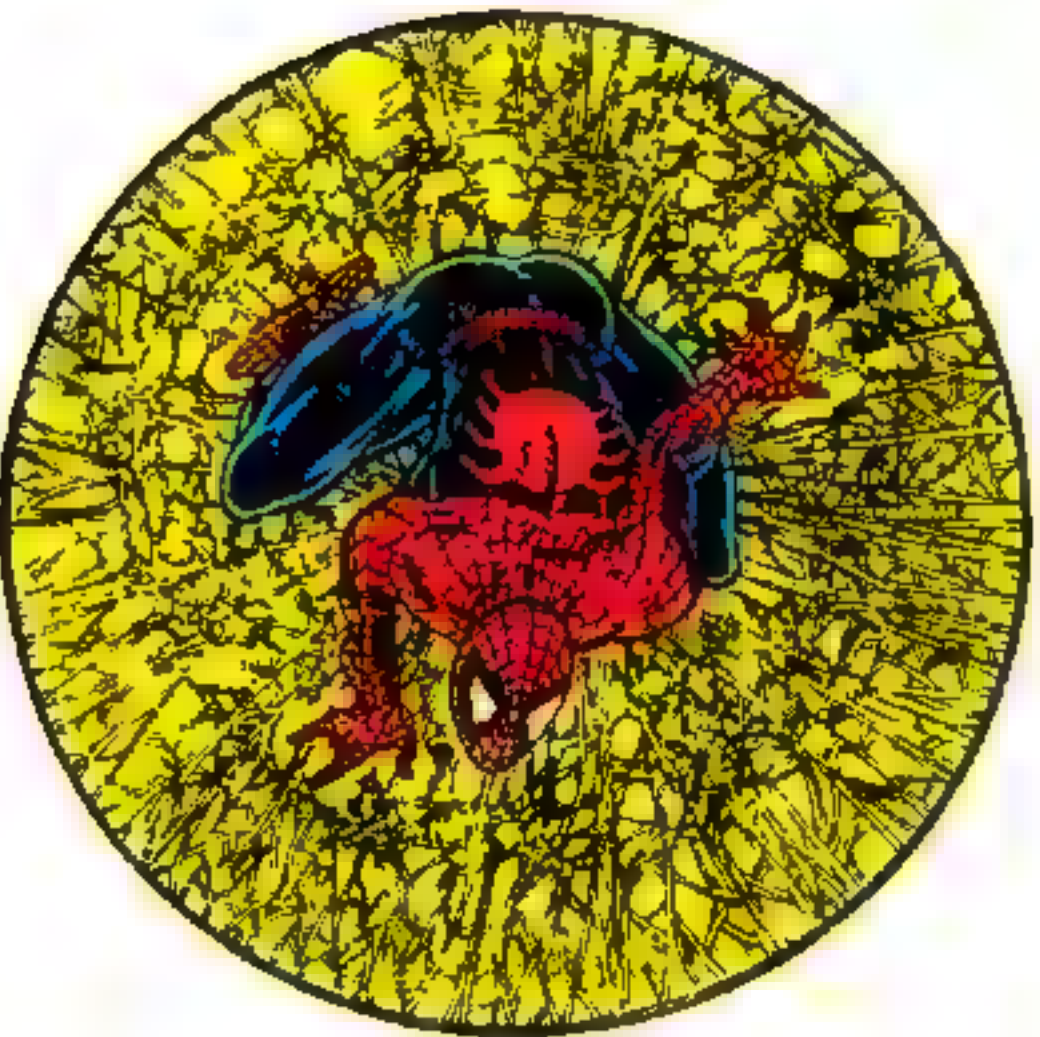
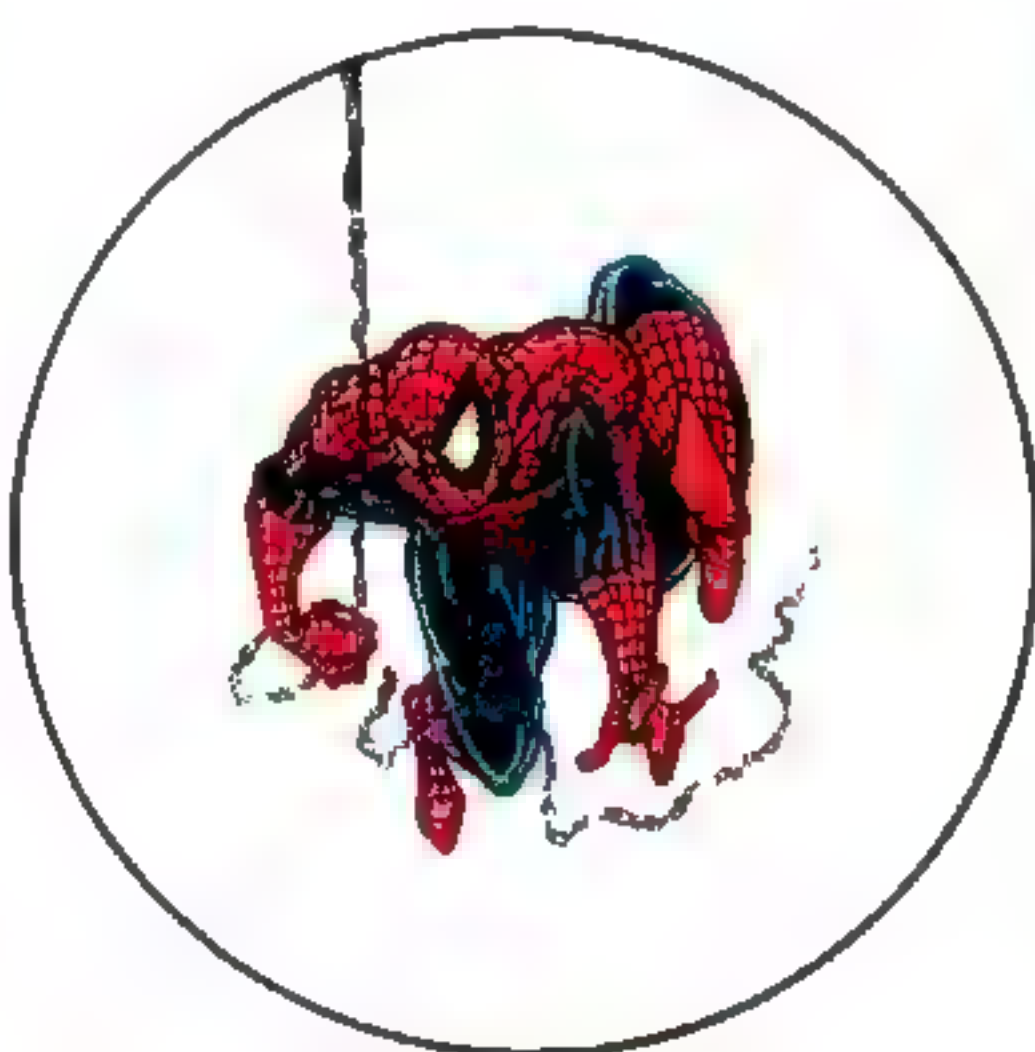
For folks who favor buttons, there's a set of Spider-Man buttons by Todd McFarlane himself. They're all-new, all-round, and all-nifty. They're even pictured on this very page. If you're inclined to purchase them, we recommend trying that favorite comics shop of yours!

Fanzine fans should seek out recent issues of *Amazing Heroes*, *Comics Scene Spectacular*, *Comics Interview*, and our very own MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE for all-new covers and interviews with the ever popular Mr. McFarlane. You should be able to find all of the above at your favorite comics shop. David Anthony Kraft, publisher of *Comics Interview* and erstwhile Minister of InFOOMation, has generously made this special offer to all Spidey-fans. You can order *Comics Interview* #81 for \$4.95 postpaid from:

Comics Interview Group
234 Fifth Avenue
Suite 301-M
New York, NY 10001

But that's not all. DAK will give this special deal to Spidey-fans who say they saw this plug in SPIDER-MAN #2—a one year subscription for just \$24.00 instead of the regular \$36.00 or the newsstand cost of \$50.00. That's half off for Spidey-fans!

But even that's not all! For those of you who'd like to collect the Spider-Man newspaper strip by Stan Lee you can get it once again in *Comics Revue* starting with issue #51. Believe it or not Todd McFarlane did the cover for that issue and it's available for \$5.00 postpaid from the *Comics Interview Group* at the address above. Mention SPIDER-MAN #2 and you'll get the special 12-issue subscription rate of only \$35.00—almost half off the newsstand price.



There's even more Spidey stuff coming, including video games, t-shirts, skateboards, not to mention a major motion picture, and much, much more. As much as we want to, we don't have room to plug 'em all. Just keep checking your favorite comics shop for the latest goodies!

And speaking of favorite comics shops, did we mention that *The Spider's Web* (Hey, where'd they come up with that name?) sold 24,000 copies of SPIDER-MAN #1 autographed by Todd McFarlane? Did we mention that Todd's also co-owner of the store? And did we mention that if you're interested in purchasing any original SPIDER-MAN pages by Todd, you should contact:


The Spider's Web
729 River Road
Puyallup, Washington 98371
Phone: (206) 845-6179

And be sure to say hi to Kim Kolomyjec for us. In fact, if you can pronounce his name, ask him how things are in Puyallup!

Next month, we'll turn this page over to you for your letters of comment. So be sure not to miss next issue, it'll be easy to find on the newsstand—it's the comic with the upside down logo! Until next time, buy plenty of Spidey products and hang loose!

—Jim (I'll sell anything) Salicrup

MARVEL COMICS



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\$1.00 US
\$1.25 CAN
90
JULY

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

THE OFFICIAL MARVEL FAN MAGAZINE!

MARVEL AGE

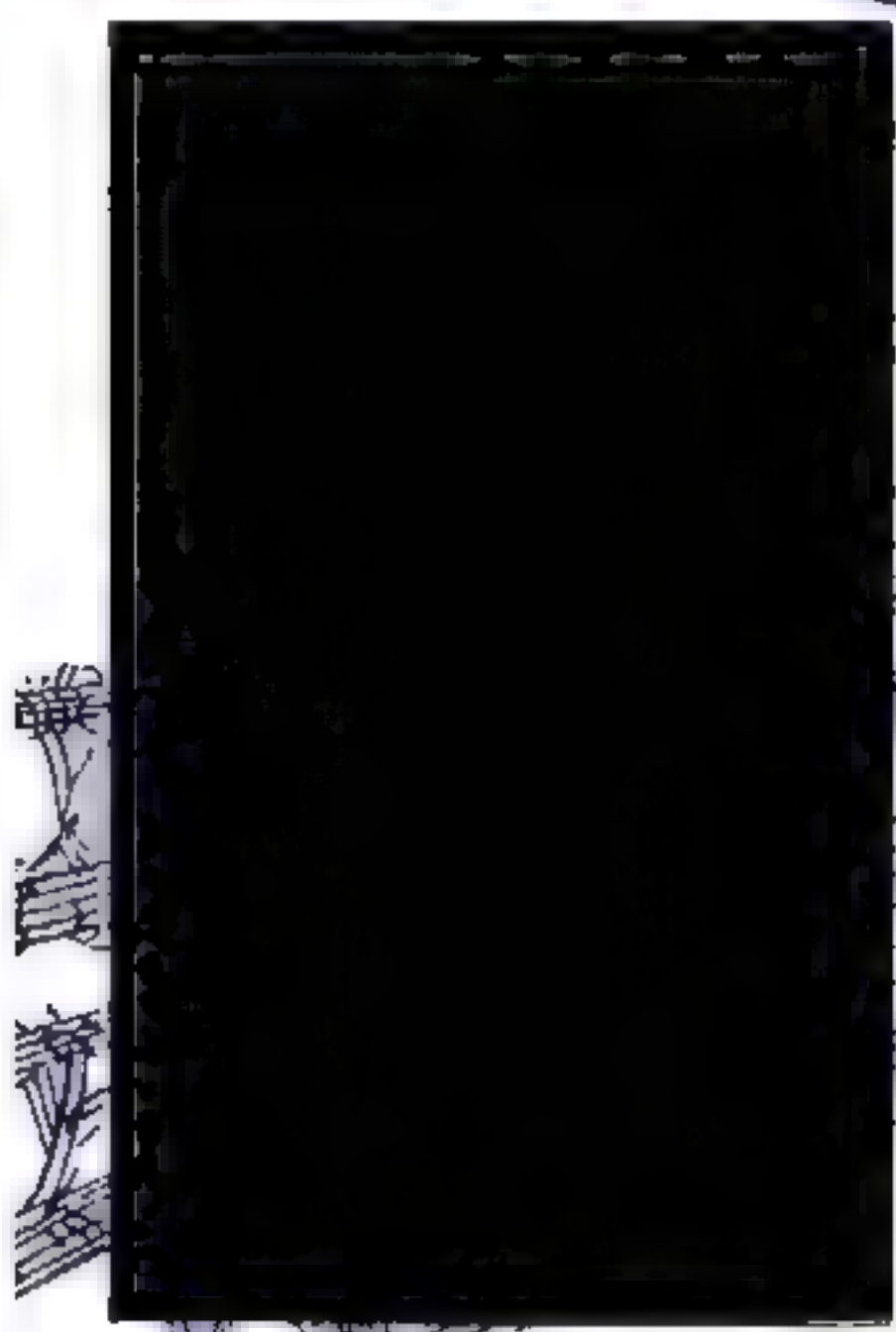
IF YOU MISSED
SPIDER-MAN
NO. 1 THE FIRST TIME - THIS IS YOUR SECOND CHANCE!

AND I PROMISE NOT TO RIP UP YOUR **X-MEN** COMICS!

JIM LEE
SPEAKS!
SEE PAGE 12!

CBG FAN AWARDS
WINNER
FAVORITE PUBLICATION ABOUT COMICS

McFARLANE



COVER ART BY TODD McFARLANE

SPECIAL

THE

NON-MUTANT

REPORT

SPECIAL

SPIDER-MAN®

Some of the most innovative and popular artwork on SPIDER-MAN over the last few years has been done by Todd McFarlane, who recently completed a lengthy run as penciler and inker of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. But Todd is far from finished with the character. He is now the writer as well as the artist on a brand new series, titled, simply enough, SPIDER-MAN, which will present special three-to-five issue self-contained stories featuring Marvel's most popular super hero.

When Todd left AMAZING SPIDER-MAN it was because he had reached the point where he wanted to draw his own ideas for stories, and not those of another writer. "I guess I was getting a little restless on the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN book," Todd explains. "I figured the only way I could have control over what I wanted to draw was to write the book. It was not so much that I wanted to be a writer, but I wanted to have more freedom on the drawing side of it." So Todd made it known that he wanted to start writing. "I figured I'd start in the mail room with whatever book they were able to scrape together. But someone came up with the idea of a new SPIDER-MAN book." In fact, starting a fourth SPIDER-MAN book had been discussed for some time, and with an artist of Todd's caliber avail-

able, now seemed to be the right time. So Todd was offered the book, and, as he says, "I'm not a fool, so I said, 'Yeah, okay, fine.'"

Todd's plans for the new series ran into some initial complications. "I found out that the villains for the first twenty issues of storylines I wanted to do were all tied up in the other three SPIDER-MAN books. I wanted to start out with a classic character, someone from Spider-Man's past. One of the few guys no one had dibs on was the Lizard. So the first few issues are going to look like a Spider-Man-Lizard story. Then, about at the halfway point in issue three, it kind of veers to the left." There is much more to the story than a simple one-on-one battle between these two longtime adversaries.

For one thing, this is not the Lizard as you've ever seen him before. "The way I want to play the Lizard is not the way he's been played for twenty years. I'm treating him more as a monster. He's a great visual, with big fangs. The fangs have grown since the last time we've seen him. You never see him as Dr. Connors, his human self. He's this giant monster, more along the lines of the creature in the movie ALIEN. He doesn't talk in five issues."

But what really makes the story "veer left" is the presence of a mystery

villain. All Todd will say about the identity of the villain is that it's somebody who's been in the Marvel Universe before." And the villain has the Lizard in thrall. The Lizard is acting "against his will, more or less. Actually, he has no will. There's no remorse for what he does. He's basically a killing machine."

"The first issue is a set-up. The next four issues take place in three hours. Spider-Man's been poisoned, so his mind is really whacked out," so much so that Spider-Man even begins to hallucinate a little, distorting the way he sees things. "It's one bad night for Spider-Man. I'm trying to present it in a way that maybe you haven't seen before in a SPIDER-MAN story."

Todd does not intend to leave Spider-Man's wife out of the series. "Mary Jane will be in there. Even if he goes up to Canada," as Spider-Man will in the following storyline, "he'll phone her, because he's a good husband. In fact, there are really only four people in the first five issues, and that's the Lizard, the mystery villain, Spider-Man and Mary Jane. It's one long night in a city of eight million people, but it's kind of a lonely place where nobody really has a clue what's going on a lot of the time. There are individual situations going on"—including Spider-Man being in dire



peril—"and everybody else is ignorant about them."

But Todd does not plan to feature the other regular members of the supporting cast, or to tie in to ongoing subplots in the other three Spider-titles. "I'll leave people like Betty to the writers of the other books. When somebody is involved with the main crux of the story, then I'll focus on that person for four or five issues."

Issues #6 through #10 team Spider-Man up with Wolverine against the ravenous monster of the Canadian woodlands, the Wendigo. "Roughly issues #11 through #15 will probably be a Green Goblin story. I want to make a meaner-looking Goblin. Then probably #16 through #20 will be a Venom story. That's almost two years for four storylines."

Todd has some trepidations about becoming a writer on a major series. "I don't really consider myself a writer. I consider myself an artist who just happens to be writing." However, he continues, "I'm actually amused at how easy a time I'm having. I figured that when I handed it in, Jim Salicrup would have a heart attack and make me re-write everything twelve times. So right now I don't really see any negative side to it." In fact, Todd regards working with Spider-editor Salicrup as one of the positive aspects of the job. "I have a good working relationship with Jim. Jim's a good guy."

Asked if there is anything specific he wants to do with Spider-Man as a character, Todd replies, "I'm going to try

to bring more of my own life into Peter Parker's. I see Peter as being the same age I am. He's got a pretty wife, and I've got a beautiful wife. I want to show a little bit more of Peter and Mary Jane's relationship." Todd also wants to reinforce the idea of Spider-Man as a hero who functions best in New York City, battling the menaces that arise there. "He's more of an urban hero. You won't see him in outer space or doing time travel in my stories."

Todd's very individualistic work on SPIDER-MAN has been compared to that of Spider-Man's co-creator, Steve Ditko. "I owe a lot to Ditko," Todd admits, but more in terms of the overall impression he believes that Ditko's artwork gave to the series. "If you look at what Ditko did and what I do, I think you'll see we're not really close technically. But I think we both give the same impression. When Ditko was doing SPIDER-MAN, Spider-Man was kind of weird and funky. When I did mine twenty years later, again it was weird and funky. I didn't go back and study Ditko. What I did was I pulled out what I thought Ditko probably did, in that he had Spider-Man in weird positions, he made him a little bit darker, he maybe had bigger eyes, and he had more webbing. Now whether he did or he didn't I haven't really analyzed. It's the perception that I remember, not the actual technical thing that he did."

In drawing Spider-Man, Todd tries to make him look and move as spider-like as possible. "If I was to create the SPIDER-MAN logo, it'd be a big

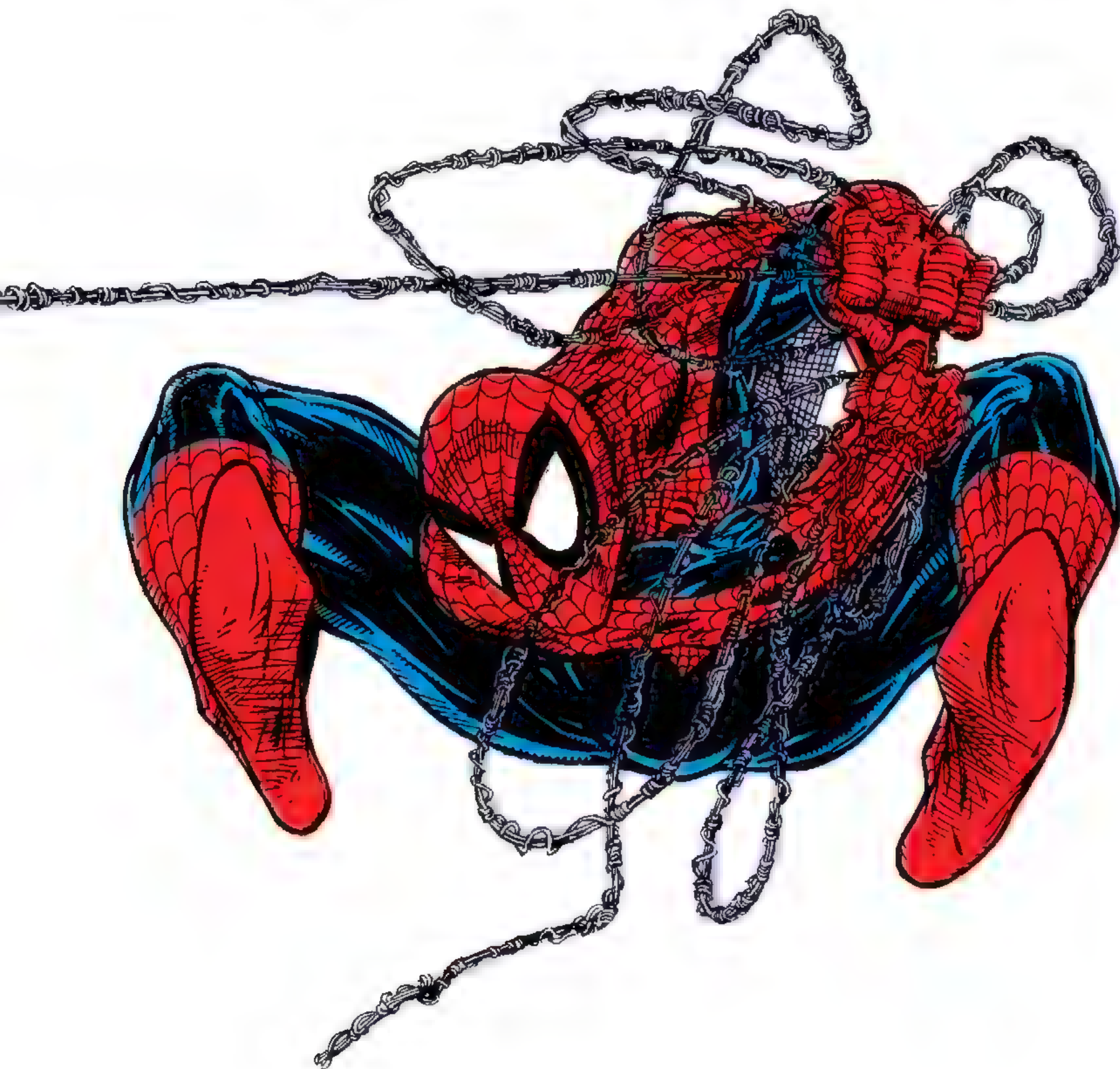


'spider,' little 'man.'" And he extends the same idea to the classic Spider-Man villains, many of whom resemble animals or other inhuman beings. "The same with the Lizard and the Goblin. When he's the Lizard, he's like a lizard, a monster." Similarly, Todd wants to draw the Green Goblin to look as goblin-like as possible, as if there were not really a normal human being inside the Goblin's costume. "I try almost to forget that they're people, because it's more interesting visually to me as a comic book reader to picture them as monsters than to know there's a man under that costume."

But the comics artist who had the biggest influence on Todd was not Steve Ditko but Jack Kirby. "I don't think a lot of people see my stuff as like Kirby's." Again, the influence isn't on Todd's specific drawing style. "I don't draw figures like Kirby. Kirby's probably the biggest influence on the way I tell stories. Kirby always led with the big image. If someone got slugged through a wall, it took up the whole panel. I try to give you the big visual that hits you over the head. That's why when I show Spider-Man or Mary Jane for the first time in an issue, it's in a big panel. Every time you see the villain for the first time in my stories, it's big."

Todd wants to make the new SPIDER-MAN series very different from the other Spider-books, and from any SPIDER-MAN stories of the past. "There's so much SPIDER-MAN stuff out there right now. So my main goal on the book is to try to do SPIDER-MAN stories that haven't been seen before." So give the new SPIDER-MAN series a look. Both you and Spider-Man are in for a new kind of adventure.

—Peter Sanderson



MARVEL[®] REVIEWERS



We sent out preview copies of the first issue of SPIDER-MAN to a few fortunate Marvelites in hopes of hearing good things. What we got were rave reviews for Todd McFarlane and this exciting new book.

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

This review copy of SPIDER-MAN says one thing loud and clear; Jim Salicrup is giving Todd McFarlane carte blanche on the book to really showcase his style. Todd's storyline and pacing give him that chance to draw exactly what he wants, and the result is . . . amazing? . . . spectacular? . . . the result is pure McFarlane, and that's going to be enough to make this the best selling premiere issue Marvel does this year. The only complaints I have are things I've not liked about McFarlane's work before: Peter's cutesy button nose, the way that nose seems to disappear completely under the Spidey-mask (pg. 3 & 6), and the thin, vertical panels (especially pg. 16). Everything else, I liked, and that's a lot to like!

Spider-Man's various powers are showcased for new readers, with the gritty side of New York City. The Lizard returns in a way that raises plenty of questions and disturbingly tells us that he's a *lot* nastier than Spider-Man recalls; the "light" of Spider-Man's world is contrasted with the "darkness" of the Lizard's realm.

SPIDER-MAN #1 is chock-full of what comics are about: exciting, entertaining stories, told with well-crafted, distinctive artwork. This is the sort of thing that makes me want to yell, "MAKE MINE MARVEL!"

Rick S. Jones
401 East Walnut
Argos, IN 46501

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

The art in this comic is awesome. This is the best SPIDER-MAN issue I've ever seen McFarlane draw, and that's saying a lot! The detail is incredible.

The story was pretty interesting, but the dialogue and narration needs a little work. It should get more realistic in a few issues. I'd advise people to try SPIDER-MAN out. Until Spidey slings french fries instead of webs, MAKE MINE MARVEL!

Chris Cheney
55 Rocca Drive
Petaluma, CA 94952

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

I like Todd's artwork because it's so dimensional. And issue #1 of SPIDER-MAN is definitely no exception since there are several panels in the book where it looks like Spidey is going to swing off the page! In addition, Mr. McFarlane's artwork is always very bold which makes the visual aspects of the story flow gracefully.

The story on the other hand . . . was quite awful. Just kidding! Actually, I was very impressed with Mr. McFarlane's writing ability. "Torment, Part One" had all the elements of a good story such as action, suspense, comedy, and mystery. This time, the Lizard is more terrifying than ever before and he's also a killer which may generate some controversy. I believe that everybody will be happy with the interaction between Peter and Mary Jane. Todd definitely knows how the chemistry between Peter and Mary Jane works! I'm a hundred percent satisfied with Todd's work on this first issue and I predict that this new SPIDER-MAN series will be a major hit!

Stephen Nunet
3520 Standish Lane
Racine, WI 53405

Dear MARVEL,

In response to the first issue of the SPIDER-MAN comic, I found it to be rather intriguing. It combined the elements of suspense and horror rather well, with a bit of humor thrown in. It was really intense, the kind of action you'd expect from a SPIDER-MAN comic.

It's really good to see Todd McFarlane back in action again, especially with SPIDER-MAN. Todd's writing was excellent, up to par with his artwork. This book should go far, what with the success of the other SPIDER-MAN titles, and Todd McFarlane as artist/writer.

The story-line of the first five issues should help the book along, also.

Jeffrey A. Moarcotte
9751 Richmond Drive
Kansas City, MO 64134

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

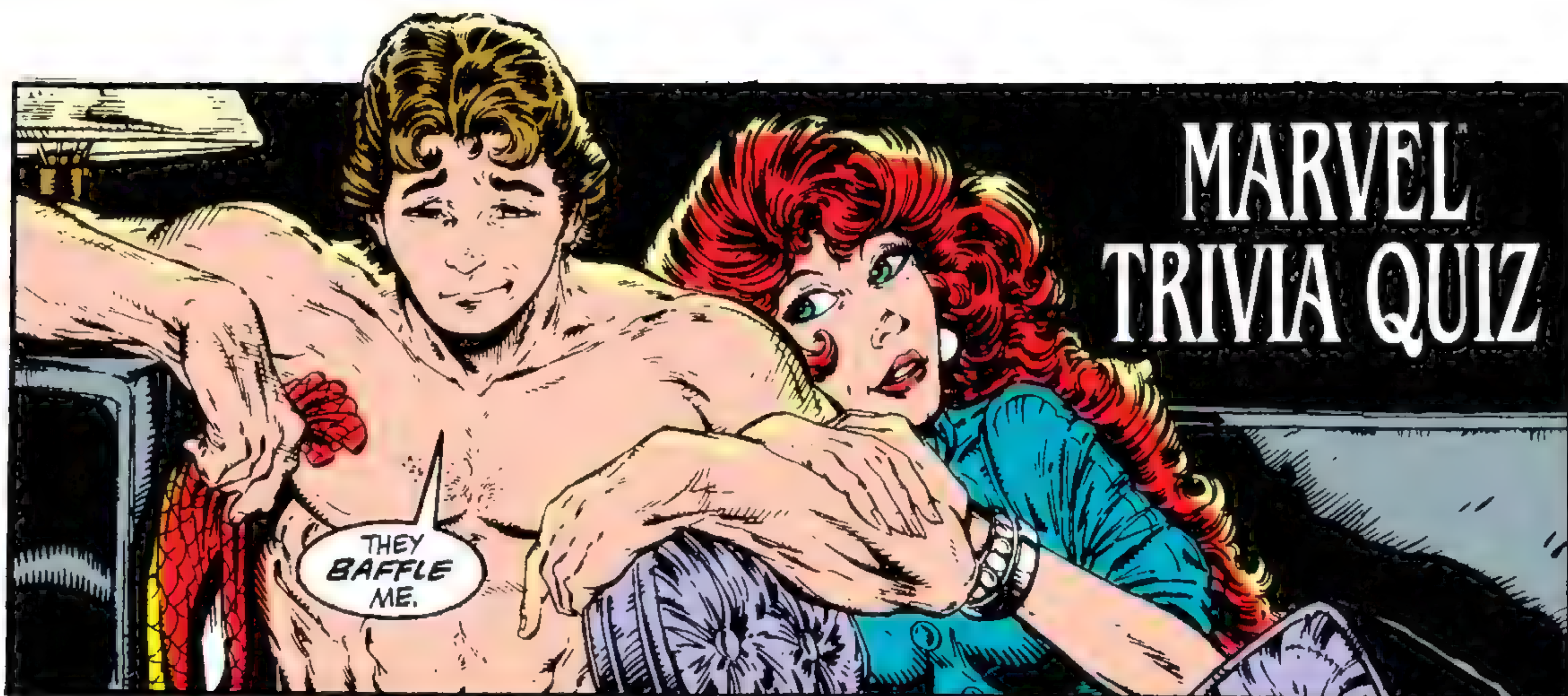
In SPIDER-MAN #1 the atmosphere is set very well, contrasting the light-hearted Spider-Man and the string of killings. Both McFarlane's story and his art are very well done. This book seems a little darker than the other Spider-Man books usually are. This first issue sets up suspense very well, especially as Spider-Man does not even confront his adversary in this first issue. I look forward to seeing more of this storyline and this excellent book.

Thank you again for selecting me to participate. Keep up the good work.

Malin Huffman
401 S. Fountain
Wichita, KS 67218

Well, SPIDER-MAN #1 seems to be a big hit with our reviewers. Several of those reviewing this new book commented on the dark, suspenseful, atmosphere created by Todd McFarlane. And Todd should be pleased to know that his ability as a writer, as well as an artist, is being well received.

And that brings us to the end of another session with our Mighty Marvel Reviewers. But remember, if you would like to become one of "the chosen," simply send a post-card to "MARVEL REVIEWERS," c/o MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.



When Spider-Man first burst on the scene, let's face it, he was no ladykiller. Folks, the boy had problems! Needless to say, things have changed over the years, and and Peter Parker has spent a remarkable share of time surrounded by what David Letterman would call "fabulous babes!" While

other articles this month talk about the new action headed Spider-Man's way, we're going to look at, shall we say, a different kind of action? The following twelve questions review the women in Spider-Man's life—including a couple you've probably forgotten about! Answers on page 32.

—Brian Nelson

1. When Mary Jane became Mary Jane Watson-Parker, her wedding gown design was supplied by what real-life fashion designer?

- A) Liz Claiborne
- B) Giorgio Armani
- C) Willi Smith
- D) Cher

2. A faithful and complete list of the women in Peter's life should include which of the following females, who had an undeniable chemistry with Peter when her own lover was thought dead?

- A) April Maye
- B) Shanna the She-Devil
- C) Janet Van Dyne
- D) Roseanne Barr

3. Peter nearly became involved with the Black Widow when she had been brainwashed into thinking she was:

- A) biochemist Nina Robinson
- B) aerobics instructor Nita Rubins
- C) kindergarten teacher Nancy Rushman
- D) international sex star Ursula Andress

4. Which of Peter's fellow students surprisingly turned out to be a member of an alien race?

- A) Cissy Ironwood
- B) Jean DeWolff
- C) Marcy Kane
- D) Jane Quexxx'lll—raaa

5. Who considered her belief that Peter Parker was secretly Spider-Man as proof that she was insane?

- A) Debra Whitman
- B) Mrs. Muggins
- C) his neighbor Bambi
- D) his neighbor Thumper

6. She met Spider-Man in a cameo appearance in the first issue of MARVEL TEAM-UP, and returned years later in MARVEL TEAM-UP to co-star with Spider-Man. Who is she?

- A) Patsy Walker
- B) Jean Grey
- C) Misty Knight
- D) Jane Curtin

7. Which heroine attacked Spider-Man in a story which tied in with her own solo tale in MARVEL SUPER-HEROES?

- A) Elektra
- B) the Black Cat
- C) Medusa
- D) Millie the Model

8. Which romance did Peter follow to England?

- A) Crystal
- B) Mindy Brown
- C) Gwen Stacy
- D) Glenda Jackson

9. How did Aunt May once foil a gang of thieves robbing her boarding house?

- A) fooling them into believing she had super-powers
- B) ambushing them
- C) feigning a heart attack
- D) taking an AK-47 and blowing them away

10. Whose first appearance in Marvel Comics was with the words, "Tiger, you just hit the jackpot!"

- A) Felicia Hardy
- B) Mary Jane Watson
- C) Gwen Stacy
- D) the White Tiger

11. In one of Spider-Man's earliest guest appearances, which woman confessed to an instinctive revulsion for him?

- A) Jean Grey
- B) Susan Storm
- C) Betty Ross
- D) Janet Van Dyne

12. Which of Peter's early flames was attracted to him because he seemed so unlike her overadventurous brother?

- A) Betty Brant
- B) Dorrie Allen
- C) Liz Allen
- D) the Scarlet Witch

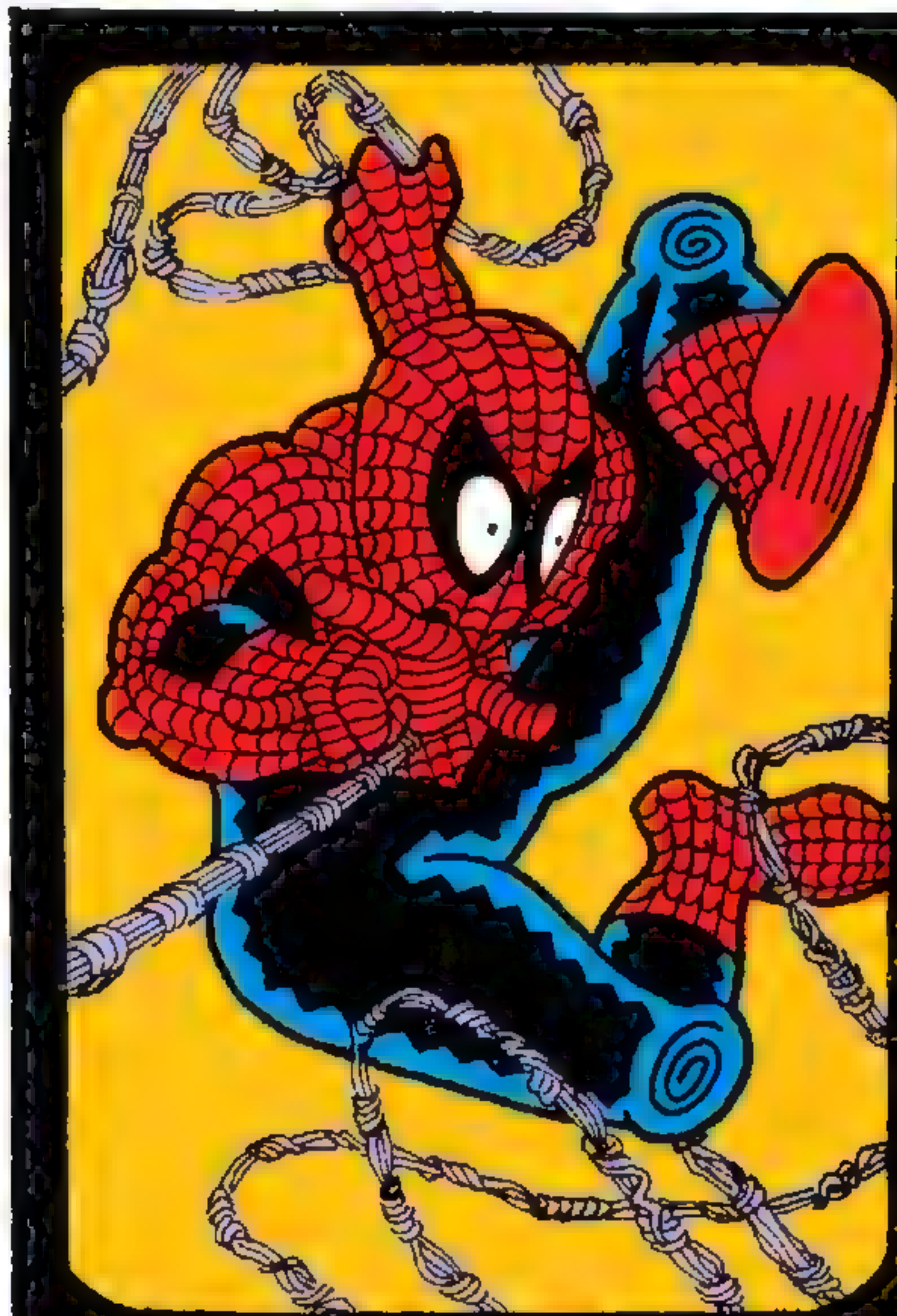
ANSWERS TO MARVEL® TRIVIA QUIZ

- | | | |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. A | 5. B | 9. C |
| 2. C | 6. C | 10. D |
| 3. B | 7. B | 11. A |
| 4. A | 8. C | 12. B |

ONE AFTERNOON, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF MARVEL COMICS...



HEMBECKSPREAD

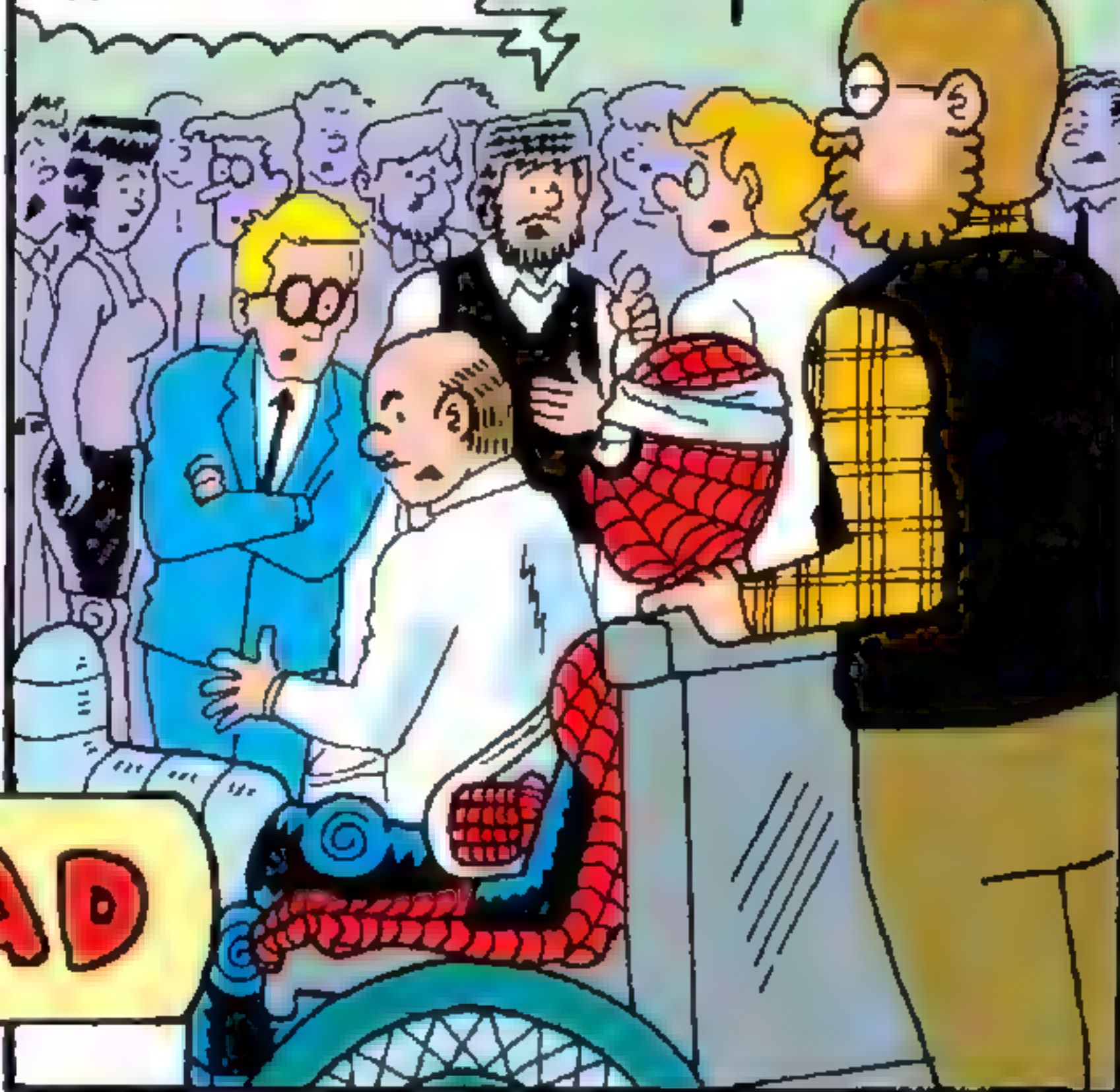


Aargh--ANOTHER TENDON TRASHING POSE FROM THE MIND OF MCFARLANE--YES, THE VERY SAME MR. MCFARLANE WHO'S BEING PUT IN CHARGE OF BOTH WRITING AND DRAWING MY ALL NEW "SPIDER-MAN" TITLE--NO, DON'T DENY IT. I HAVE MY SOURCES. I KNOW THE PAINFUL TRUTH.

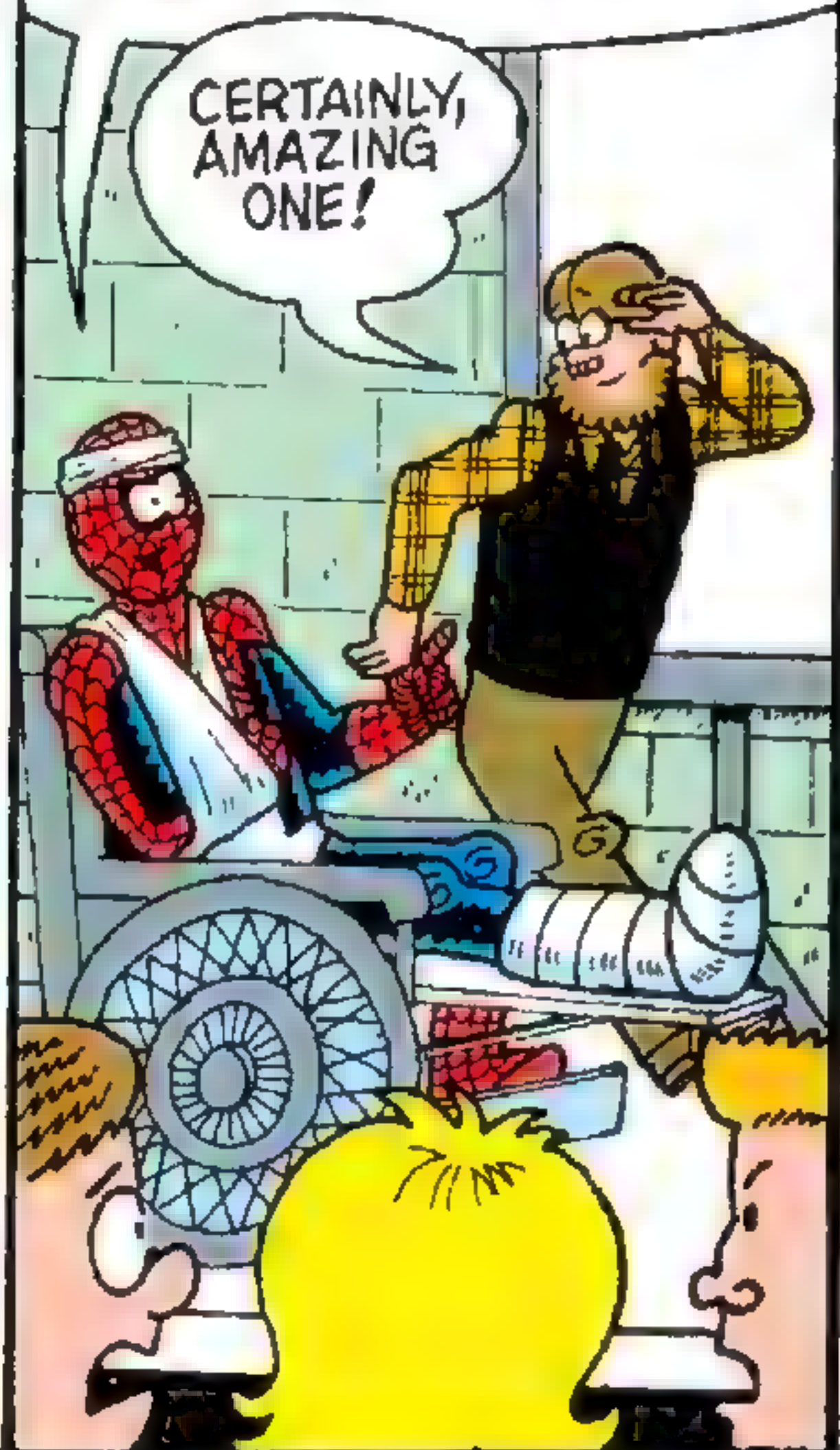
SLIDE.

BUT ANYBODY WHO'S THE LEAST BIT IMPORTANT TO THIS COMPANY IS ALREADY HERE. I DON'T UNDERST--

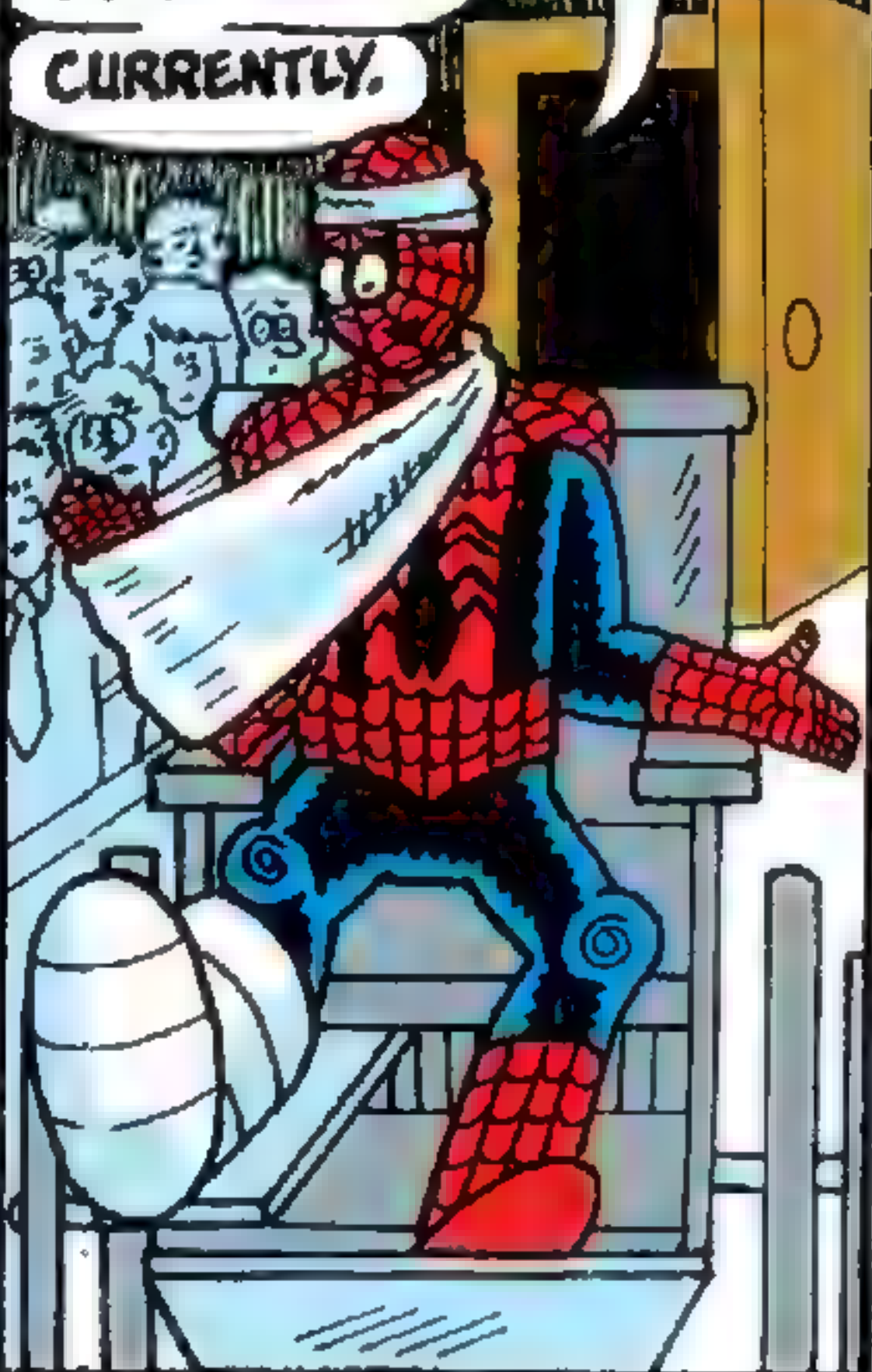
HEY LOOK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN! BUT--WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?



THAT'LL BE JUST FINE, FRED. NOW, IF YOU'D BE SO GOOD AS TO MAN THE SLIDE PROJECTOR?



LADIES AND GENTS, I WANNA THANK YOU FOR SHOWING UP HERE TODAY--IT'S APPRECIATED. OH, AND BEFORE ANY OF YOU GET TOO WORRIED--RELAX. THIS IS ALL FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT. CURRENTLY, I'M IN TIP TOP SHAPE.



Y'SEE, I'VE GOTTEN WIND OF YOUR PLANS--PLANS THAT ARE SURE TO PUT ME IN BANDAGES AND CASTS FOR REAL IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING TO STOP 'EM--AND SOON. (WOULD SOMEONE PLEASE HIT THE LIGHTS? THANKS.) FIRST SLIDE PLEASE FRED.



ANYBODY RECOGNIZE THIS SHOT? YUP, IT'S YOURS TRULY IN A POSE CONCEPTUALIZED BY THE TALENTED--AND, YES, I REALIZE ALL TOO WELL--POPULAR YOUNG ARTIST, TODD MCFARLANE.



NEXT SLIDE.

OOOooooo--IT HURTS JUST TO LOOK AT THIS ONE! NOW, I REALIZE, PEOPLE, THAT THERE'S A VERY GOOD REASON I'M CALLED SPIDER-MAN, BUT SHOULDN'T ONE OF COMPANY VETS TAKE YOUNG TODD ASIDE AND EXPLAIN TO HIM THAT EVEN SPIDERS HAVE THEIR LIMITS? PLEASE?...



SLIDE. PRIOR TO MCFARLANE, MY GREATEST ENEMIES WERE THE GREEN GOBLIN, DR. OCTOPUS, AND J. JONAH JAMESON.

NOWADAYS MY GREATEST ENEMIES ARE MUSCLE SPASMS, TORN LIGAMENTS, AND GROIN PULLS!

SLIDE.



AND THAT WEBBING! IF JAMESON AND THE BUGLE EVER TRY TO NAIL ME ON A LITTERING RAP, I'M AFRAID THEY'LL HAVE ME DEAD TO RIGHTS!!

OKAY, FRED, THAT'S ENOUGH; FACT IS, THAT'S ABOUT ALL I CAN TAKE...



ONCE MY GREATEST ALLIES WERE THE FANTASTIC FOUR, PARTICULARLY BEN GRIMM.

NOWADAYS MY GREATEST ALLIES ARE LINIMENT MEDICINES, PARTICULARLY BEN GAY!

NEXT SLIDE PLEASE--AND HURRY!!

I TRUST I'VE MADE MY POINT. THIS TODD MCFARLANE IS A FINE, FINE ARTIST, TRUE, BUT IF HE'S GIVEN FREE REIN TO DO WITH ME AS HE WILL--AND WORSE, INFLUENCE MY OTHER ARTISTS TO FOLLOW HIS LEAD--WELL, I DON'T THINK IT'S UNREASONABLE TO IMAGINE ME GAUZZED UP LIKE THE LIVING MUMMY WITHIN, OH, SIX MONTHS, TOPS.



LET HIM TAKE THE HIGH ROAD AND VOLUNTARILY SWITCH OVER TO DRAWING SOMEONE LIKE IRON MAN, CAPTAIN AMERICA, THOR--OR LET HIM TAKE THE LOW ROAD AND TAKE ON BROTHER VOODOO--I DON'T CARE! JUST KEEP TODD MCFARLANE AWAY FROM ME!



WELL, SINCE YOU ASKED, SPIDEY... FRED, IF YOU'D PLEASE SHOW SPIDER-MAN THOSE SLIDES WE GAVE YOU?...



RECOGNIZE HER, WEBHEAD?

WHY, THAT LONG FLOWING RED HAIR IS UNMISTAKABLE--THAT'S MY WIFE, MARY JANE, AS... AS DRAWN BY (Gulp) TODD MCFARLANE...

ABSOLUTELY RIGHT! NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE.



IT'S ANOTHER PORTRAIT OF THE MISSUS BY MCFARLANE. GOSH, SHE SURE DOES LOOK GORGEOUS IN THAT EVENING GOWN!



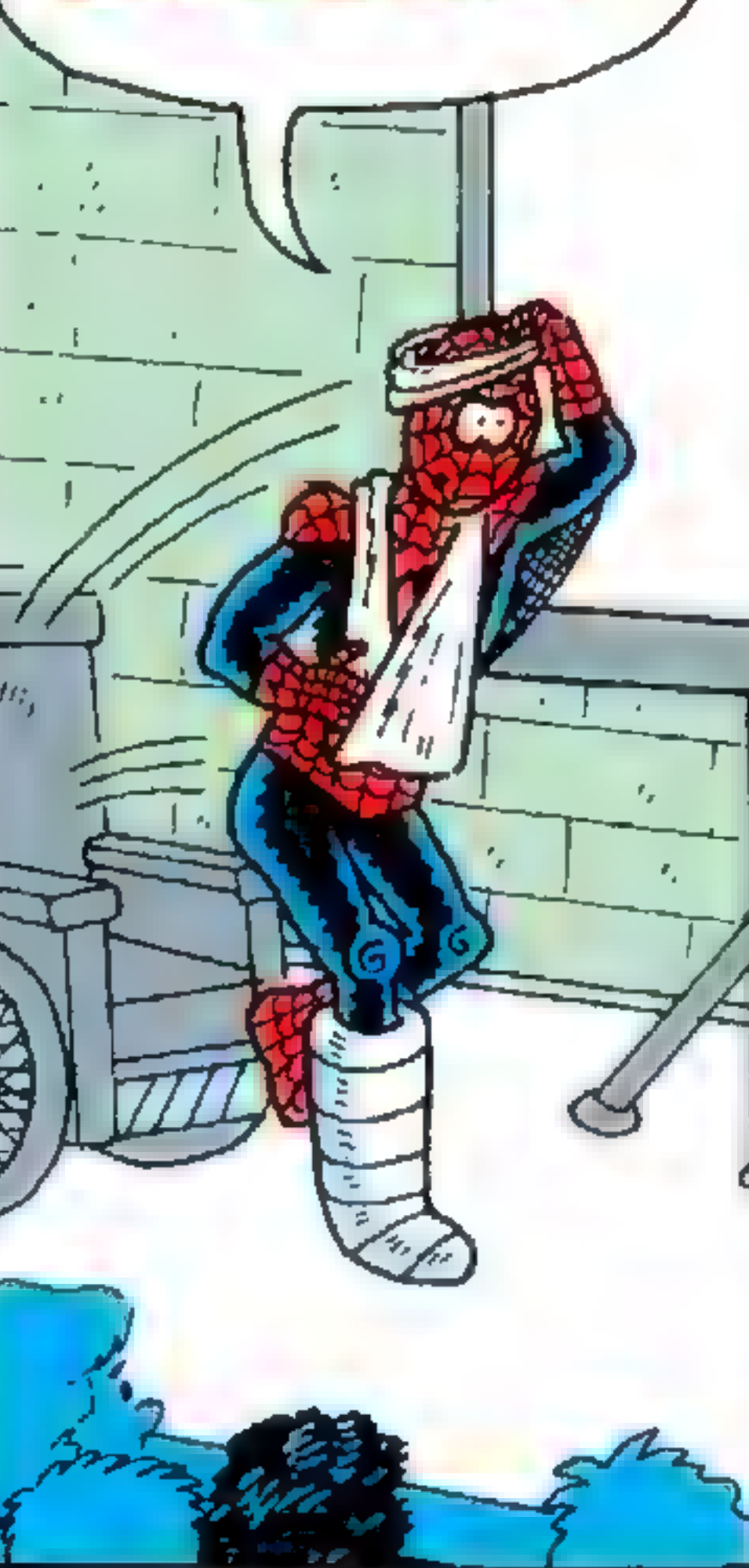
OH MY! THERE MUST'VE BEEN SOME SORT OF MIX UP WHEN MJ BOUGHT THAT BIKINI--IT'S GOT TO BE AT LEAST ONE SIZE TOO SMALL! AT LEAST.



eeeps!! MARY JANE'S BLACK TEDDY?!!



I'VE SEEN ENOUGH!



WHY THE SUDDEN RUSH, SPIDEY? WHERE YA GOING?

HOME, OF COURSE. AFTER ALL, I'VE GOT TO PREPARE FOR TODD'S FIRST ISSUE, DON'T I?



BUT--BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR CONCERNS FOR ALL THE CONTORTIONS YOU'RE SURE TO BE PUT THROUGH?



--MARY JANE GIVES ONE HECKUVA MASSAGE!



Pro File: TODD MCFARLANE

Writer/Artist on: The new SPIDER-MAN comic book.

Marvel freelance credits (past): G.I. JOE, DAREDEVIL, SPITFIRE, HULK, MARVEL TALES covers, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

Marvel freelance credits (present): SPIDER-MAN.

My place of birth: Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

People who knew me in high school thought I was: Touched. (As in retarded).

My hobbies are: Sports.

My pet peeves are: Profile forms.

My favorite performers are: Wayne Gretzky.

The last good book I read was: THE 1990 HOCKEY GUIDE & RECORD BOOK.

The last good movie I saw was: WHEN HARRY MET SALLY.



If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: Wayne Gretzky.

My oddest habit is: Working for Jim Salicrup.

My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Meeting, marrying, and loving my beautiful wife, Wanda.

The reason I got into comics was: Foolish me—I liked them.

The biggest influences on my work include: My wife, Terry Austin, Gil Kane, Jack Kirby, John Byrne, George Perez & Mike Golden.

The single work of which I am most proud is: The last issue I handed in.

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: To just get as good as I think I can get.

The worst part of my job is: Backgrounds.

When nobody's looking I like to: Draw like Erik Larsen.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: I am uncoachable.

MARVEL AGE #90

THE EYES HAVE IT!

ITEM! During the production of Todd McFarlane's sideways swan-song issue of SPIDER-MAN, Marvel's Editor in Chief noticed a pointed discrepancy. It appears that while Spidey and X-Force were in pitched combat with the Juggernaut,

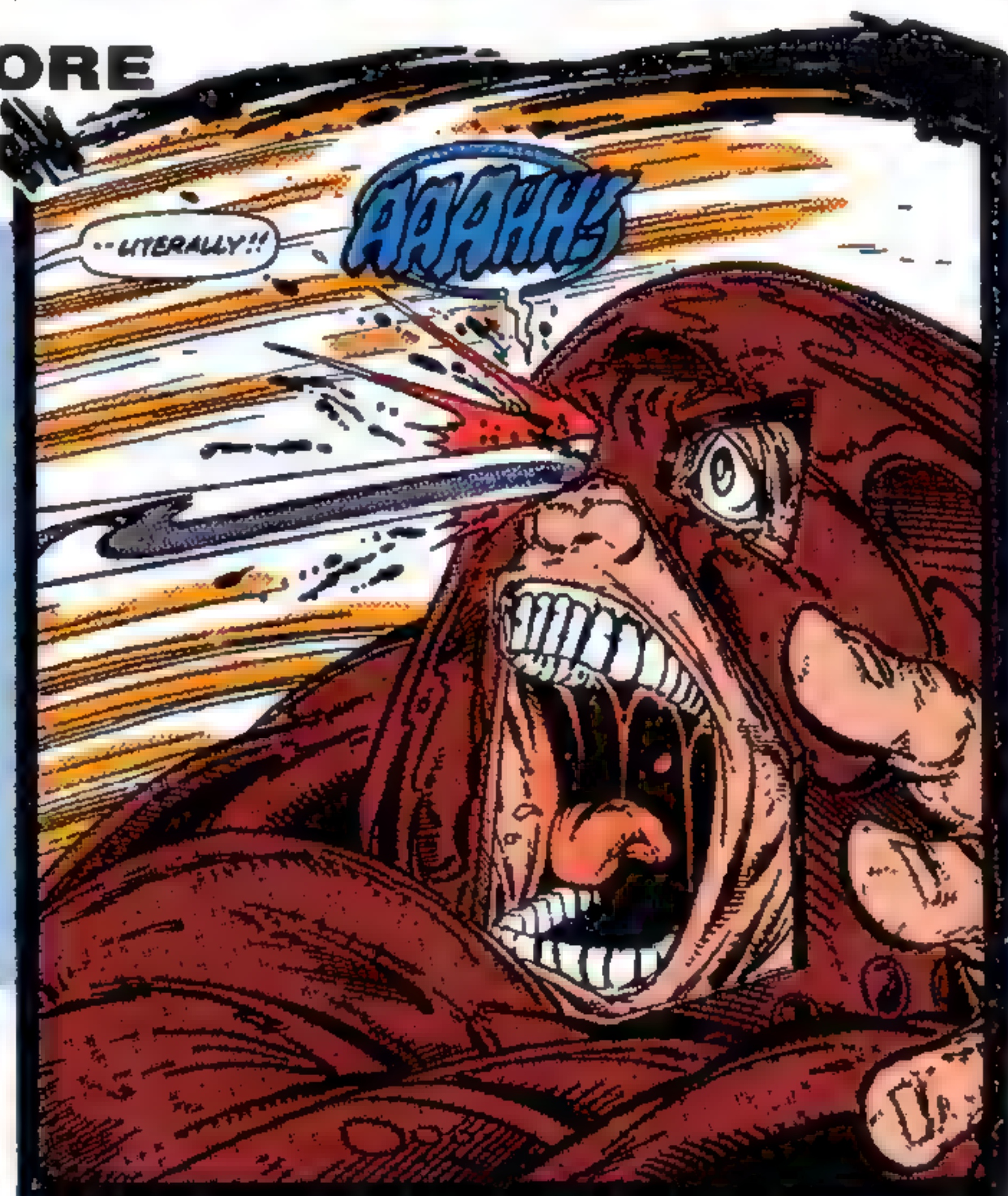
the big villain gets his eye poked out by Shatterstar's sword. OUCH!

Well, wouldn't you know, it was simply too graphic for the code approved comic book and the scene needed to be corrected. But, seeing that MARVEL AGE *isn't* a code approved book, we're able to show it to you here. Hmmmm.

So during the First Annual Marvel

Company Picnic, the full scoop on which you can spy in this very issue, Tom pitched the idea to our editor to run both pieces side by side, so that the readers could see the before and after. So here you go, Marveloids! Enjoy — and don't run with scissors!

BEFORE



AFTER



MARVEL AGE #107

A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

An Out-of-Character Lizard Plays Pit-Bull to a Would-be Kraven

On the corner of 96th Street and Third Avenue, in Manhattan's upper east side, there once stood a monument to perhaps the greatest hunter of all time — Sergei Kravinoff, otherwise known as *Kraven*. There, in a dark, Gothic studio apartment building, Kraven would adorn his trophy room with the rarest, deadliest, and most beautiful of his recent prey. Ironically, this sanctuary also served as the hunting ground for Kraven's last victim — himself.

Several weeks ago, the sanctuary mysteriously burned to the ground. Officials were unsure as to the exact cause of the fire, but witnesses agree that the wall-crawling wonder called *Spider-Man* staged an extraordinary battle there with not one, but two of his adversaries prior to the structure's demise.

Although there are conflicting reports as to the identity of the first combatant, the second was unanimously identified as the lethal *Lizard*, who had been conducting a rampaging murder spree throughout the city. The nature of these attacks were more barbaric than anything the Lizard has carried out in the past. The humanoid reptile usually prefers cold, calculated planning over such savage measures to exert the dominance of his reptilian world.

Officials agree that the Lizard may have been under the control of some outside force, perhaps the unidentified combatant. The letters "CNNR" were written in blood upon the walls of several murder sites, suggesting that the Lizard may have been trying to leave a message for someone.

Mysterious drumbeats were heard by several bystanders in the vicinity at the time of the murders. *Jericho Drumm*, a noted psychologist and Haitian *houngan* (voodoo priest), identified the description of the drumbeats as those used in voodoo hunting ceremonies. "The Yoruba Spirit Drum is used by the *hounsi* (member) of a tribe to send their prey stampeding into their snares," said Drumm. "It does so by affecting the reticular system of an animal's brain, which controls its instincts and reflexes."

If voodoo magic is indeed a factor in the Lizard's violent behavior, then it might also explain some other puzzling aspects of this case. For instance, police officials discovered huge quantities of reptilian blood on a warehouse floor after Spider-Man's initial encounter with the monster, indicating that the web-slinger had to use lethal force to subdue it. However, the Lizard apparently did not die from this "mortal" wound.

"Reptiles have the ability to regenerate missing body parts, but there is no way this creature could have survived the loss of so much blood," Drumm said, "unless, of course, it was aided by some supernatural voodoo potions."

Spider-Man also did not remain unaffected by this voodoo magic. During his subsequent battle with the Lizard, the creature somehow injected him with a poison, either on its teeth or its claws. "Voodoo hounsi use many hallucinogenic potions to work their magics," explained Drumm. "That way they can make their victims see what they most fear."

One witness, a homeless person named Jake, swears he heard Spider-Man call out the name "Kraven" to his tormentor. "That Spider-fellow sure must've been on somethin' lots stronger'n I ever drunk. I mean, sure, this person dressed all prissy like that Hunter, but these eyes ain't too old to see that the bod behind them clothes was definitely female!"

American authorities have discovered that at least on two occasions, Kraven was arrested along with a female accomplice for certain misdemeanors, one for which they were deported to Haiti. Haitian officials have since revealed that this woman, *Calypso Ezili*, is wanted for the murder of her own sister.

— Glenn Herdling



artist's representations

Above:
Kraven and
Lizard

Left:
Spider-Man

SUCKING IN THE SEWERS: THE MORBIUS TRIP!



he always controversial Dr. Michael Morbius, infamous as "The Living Vampire," made headlines once again this summer as he battled the costumed adventurer Spider-Man in an abandoned tunnel beneath Manhattan. The web-slinger donned his rarely-seen black-and-white costume for subterranean camouflage in what photographic evidence suggests was an all-out slugfest.

Once a Nobel Prize-winning biochemist, Morbius has long been plagued by a compulsion to feed on human blood to survive, a condition brought about in an attempt to cure himself of a rare blood disease. Over the years, his gruesome exploits have garnered Morbius the attention of an equally bloodthirsty band of ghouls, our nation's press corps. Recently, Morbius has been linked to the disappearance of several homeless people in the vicinity of the Port Authority bus terminal. "The Living Vampire" apparently used an unidentified accomplice to procure his victims.

According to Daily Bugle photographer *Peter Parker*, Morbius was abetted by a community of "Mole People," the inbred inhabitants of the city's many subterranean tunnels. Parker, a young shutterbug who's made a career out of photographing Spider-Man in action, claims that Morbius had been manipulating the "Mole People" (or "Good Ones" as they supposedly refer to themselves) into providing fodder for his unsavory appetites.

New York media mogul J. Jonah Jameson has called Parker's claims "unfounded."

"Mole people, schmole people!" said Jameson. "It's obvious from Parker's photos that the web-headed menace was in cahoots with that blood-sucking freak, Morbius! God only knows what that wall-crawling weirdo hoped to gain by preying on our city's homeless! I'm sure he gets some kind of perverse kick out of stunts like this!"

Parker counters that Spider-Man was there to rectify a situation he characterizes as "unfortunate."

"It was really just a big misunderstanding. Morbius didn't mean to hurt anyone. He's a very sick man. He needs help, not persecution."

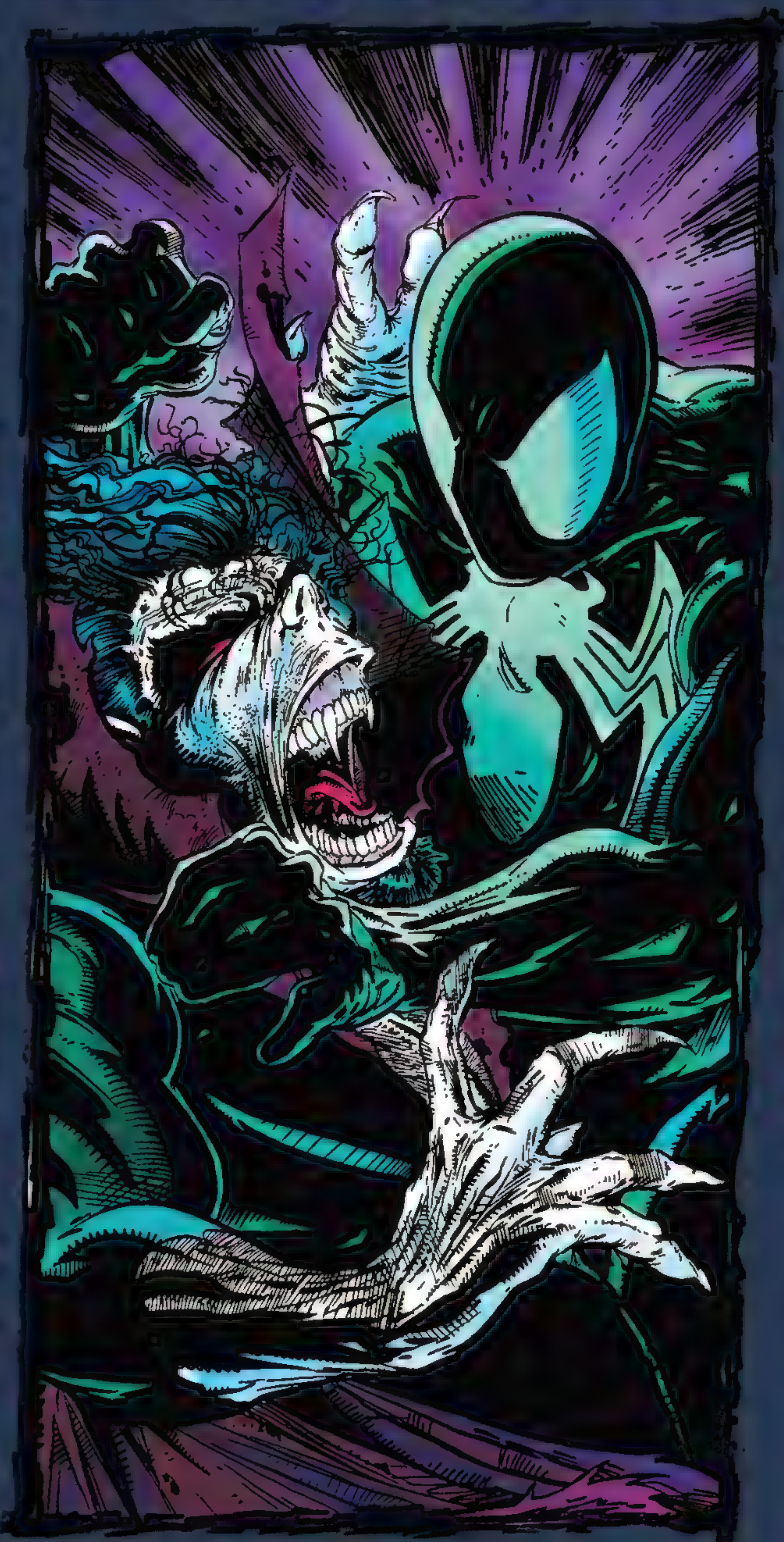
Unfortunately for Morbius, a cure for his macabre affliction seems as far off as ever. Still, he remains a strangely noble figure, a man of reason driven to kill by forces beyond his control. The tabloid press has played up the sensational aspects of his curse, but what of the man behind the grisly headlines? Morbius, "The Living Vampire," is a pale nightmare. A story to frighten children. A shadow at the end of a dark street.

Dr. Michael Morbius remains a mystery. His current whereabouts are unknown.

— Carl Karl

MARVEL 1991 - THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Stranglehold: "Spider" and "Vampire" reach a stalemate.



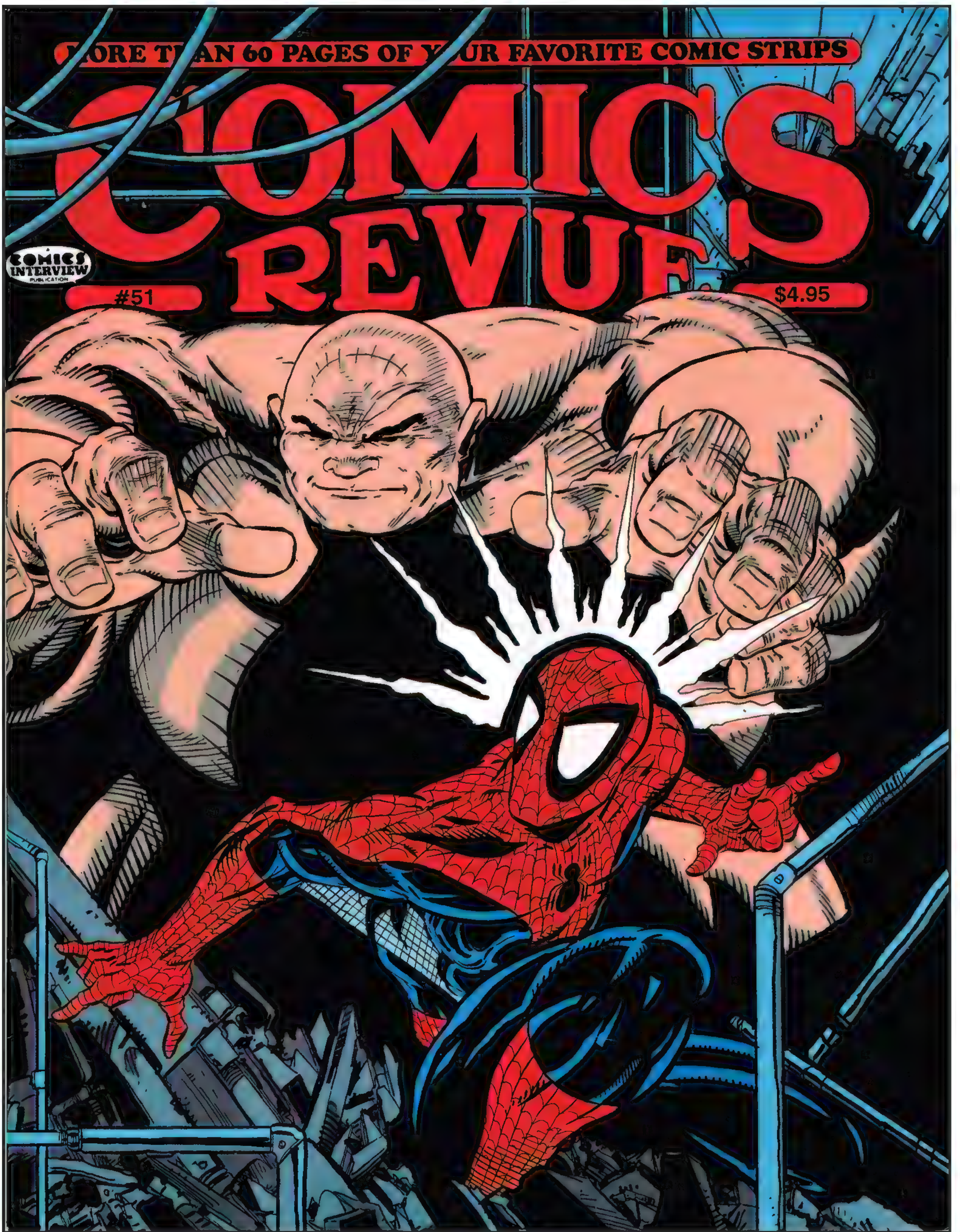


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SEPTEMBER 1991

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No. 1

THE
GUIDE
TO
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COLLECTOR'S EDITION



THE GUIDE TO COMICS • 50

FIFTIETH ISSUE EXTRAVAGANZA!



WIZARD #50'S COVER FEATURED AN AIRBRUSHED VERSION OF ISSUE #1'S COVER ART.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN IMAGINARY STORY.

The new comics have arrived at your favorite comics shop. The excitement is more intense than usual because TORMENT, the new Spider-Man trade paperback, is here! Before the usual books can be unpacked, the store is filled to capacity, the overflow is creating a mob scene outside. The police have to be called in for crowd control. One confused bystander asks, "What's the big deal? Didn't Marvel already sell millions of copies of Todd McFarlane's five-part 'Torment' story? Isn't the book merely a reprint?" As dozens of jaws drop, the confused bystander is greeted by stunned silence. All eyes fix on the poor soul. "What?!" he asks, more confused than before. Finally, someone takes pity on him and blurts out: "Yeah, but it's got a *Jim Salicrup* introduction!"

Here's the real story:

I'm tickled pink that demanding Danny Fingeroth and earnest Eric Fein asked me to write the introduction to this sure-to-be-a-best-selling trade paperback. I'm thankful for the opportunity but wondering what the heck I could say about Todd McFarlane, TORMENT and Spider-Man that hasn't been said a thousand times already. Well, I'll give it a shot.

Perhaps the most controversial aspect surrounding the original publication of SPIDER-MAN—of which I was the editor—was the impression that Todd has complete creative control and was free to write whatever he wanted. This isn't the first time people had gotten this false idea. Way back, when I edited the FANTASTIC FOUR, I decided to let John Byrne write and draw the World's Greatest Comics Magazine. I thought he did a great job, but virtually everyone I met had an opinion on John's writing, many not very favorable. As editor, I felt that as long as I was happy with what John was doing, that he was in no way messing with the integrity of that title and its characters, it didn't matter what everyone else thought. The important thing was that we had gotten everyone's attention, and since then, those naysayers have come to respect John's writing.

I feel the same way about Todd's work on SPIDER-MAN. Thanks to Todd McFarlane, Spider-Man is receiving more attention now than five years ago. Did either John or Todd have complete creative freedom? Of course not. Neither John nor Todd own these characters, and it was my job to be the characters' caretaker. Just as John wanted to do stories that I didn't want to see done, Todd had to compromise as well. The TORMENT series is a perfect example. Todd would've preferred to use the Green Goblin or several other villains. All of Todd's first choices were already being utilized in the three other Spider-Man titles. Todd settled for the Lizard. I also didn't like how Todd planned to use Mary Jane in the stories. I didn't see MJ sitting at home alone pining for Peter Parker. That's why MJ takes off to a trendy New York nightspot. The point is that Todd didn't get any kind of special treatment. He got the same amount of creative freedom and respect I give to all the writers and artists I'm lucky enough to work with. And Todd did a great job.

All that doesn't answer the question: Why was Todd allowed to write a new Spider-Man title in the first place? Many cynics feel it was purely economic. Todd sells comics, give Todd anything he wants. While I don't have much of a problem with that logic, it's just not how things really happened.

Perhaps it's best to go back to the beginning. One day, years ago, Mark Gruenwald came into my office and asked if I was interested in seeing an artist and his samples. I agreed, and the artist happened to be Todd. I looked at Todd's pencils for DC's *Batman: Year Two* and was knocked out. The pages were sensational. Todd did a variety of assignments at Marvel, including a memorable stint on the HULK. Then, when I was looking for a new artist on

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, I offered Todd the job. Todd preferred the old red-and-blue Spider-Man costume as opposed to the black-and-white outfit Spidey was then wearing. I agreed. I had been planning to return to the old costume in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #300 anyway. It was the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

As each issue of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN came in from Todd, the more we “discovered” the changes he was making with Spidey’s costumes and webs. Todd’s secret ally at Marvel was my then-assistant Glenn Herdling. Glenn was relatively new at Marvel and very excited to be working on the Spider-Man titles. He thought what Todd was doing was great. To my regret, I was stuck in the “we must keep thing consistent” mode. Fortunately, I’ve always tried to convince people my way was best and didn’t *demand* that Todd come around to my viewpoint. I was confident that once I explained to Glenn and Todd the wisdom of my view, they would readily come around. I argued and argued, until finally Glenn and Todd won. They convinced me they were right, and I went with it. To Todd’s shock and surprise, I then requested that the artists on the other Spider-Man titles incorporate Todd’s changes. I just couldn’t completely break out of my consistency mode.

To jump ahead a bit, before there isn’t any room left to run the comics, a couple of years later Todd was getting restless. He felt constrained illustrating other writers’ stories. Todd never asked to take over the writing himself—he respected the rights of other professionals — nor did he ask that a new Spider-Man title be created just for him. Todd simply told me that he was planning to leave AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and look for an assignment where he could both write and draw. Todd didn’t care if it was backup stories in an annual or taking over the poorest-selling comic around, he just wanted a new challenge. I persuaded Todd to give me the chance to make him an offer, to let me come up with a project for him. He agreed.

In the back of my mind, I saw this as an opportunity to solve a few problems. First, I wasn’t happy with the reproduction Todd’s work was getting with the printing and paper used on THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. I had earlier requested that AMAZING switch to better printing and paper but was informed that would mean raising the price of the comic, which Marvel was reluctant to do. I also wanted to start a new Spider-Man title that would have out-of-continuity, five- or six-part stories to fill the growing demand for Spider-Man trade paperbacks. Choosing material for those books wasn’t easy when storylines stretched on forever. If material was designed for the books in the first place, the end result would be more satisfying. And finally, I didn’t want to lose Todd. Todd’s energy and creativity made my job far more exciting and rewarding. The chance to take a leap to the next level with him was irresistible. And the powers that be granted us that chance. Having watched what Todd could do with other writers’ plots, I knew he had the instincts to be a great comic book writer himself. Todd just naturally knew how to make every scene more dynamic and exciting. And if that’s not important in creating super hero comics, I don’t know what is.

I offered Todd the chance to write and draw SPIDER-MAN and I haven’t regretted it yet.

Well, I’ve filled up my pages. It’s time to let you get to the real reason you’ve picked up this book—Todd’s classic five-part TORMENT series.

Have a good time. I know I did!

JIM SALICRUP
ARACHNERD EMERITUS
NOVEMBER 1991

SPIDER-MAN® TORMENT

TODD MCFARLANE



MCFARLANE
& ROSAS



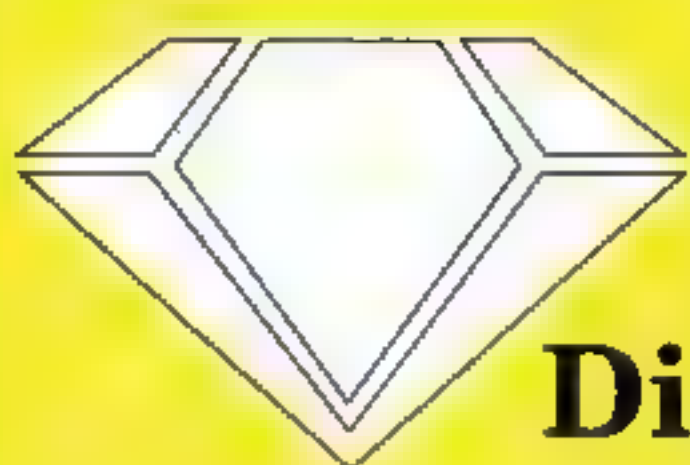
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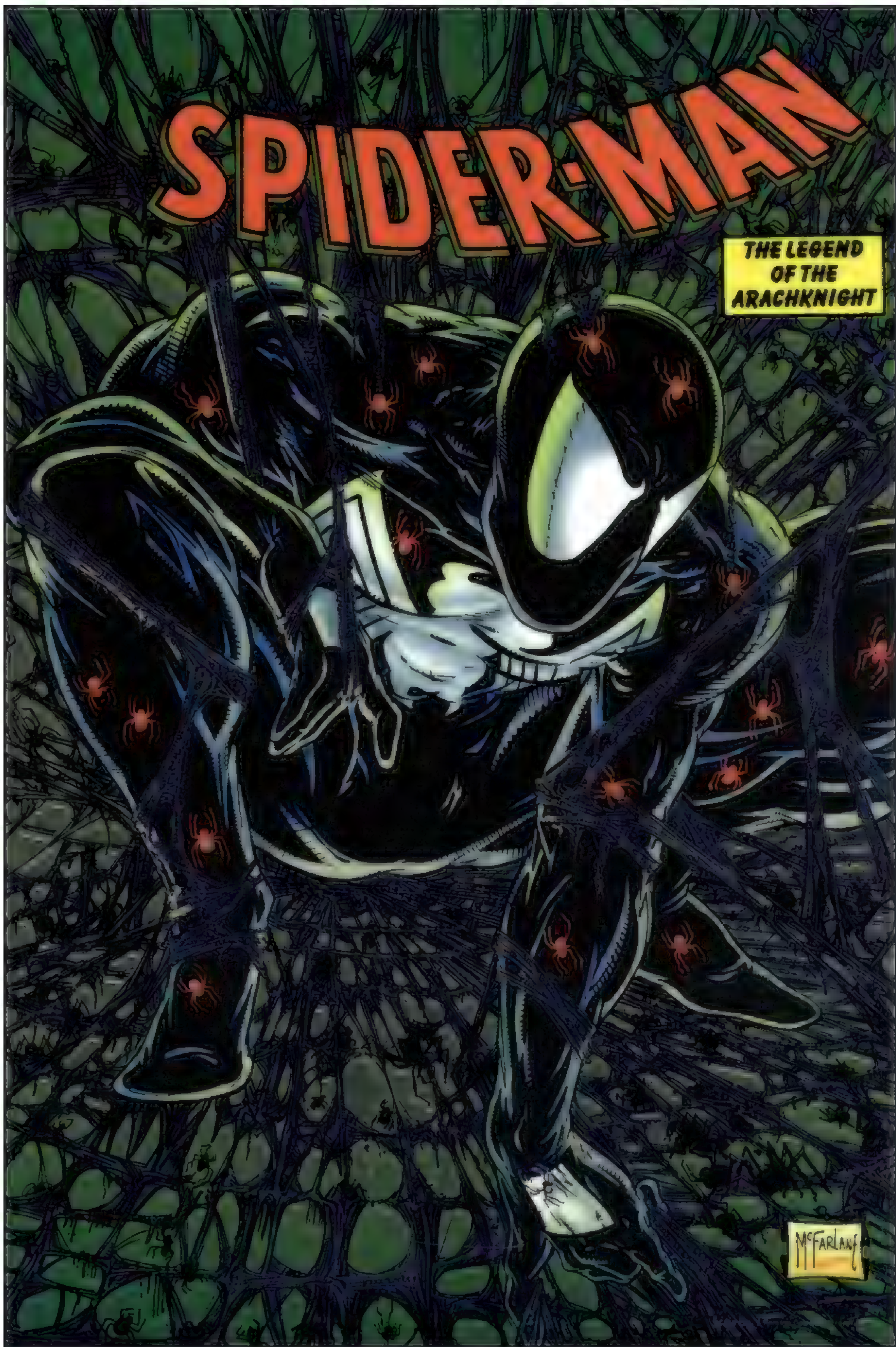
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SPIDER-MAN

THE LEGEND
OF THE
ARACHKNIGHT



McFARLANE



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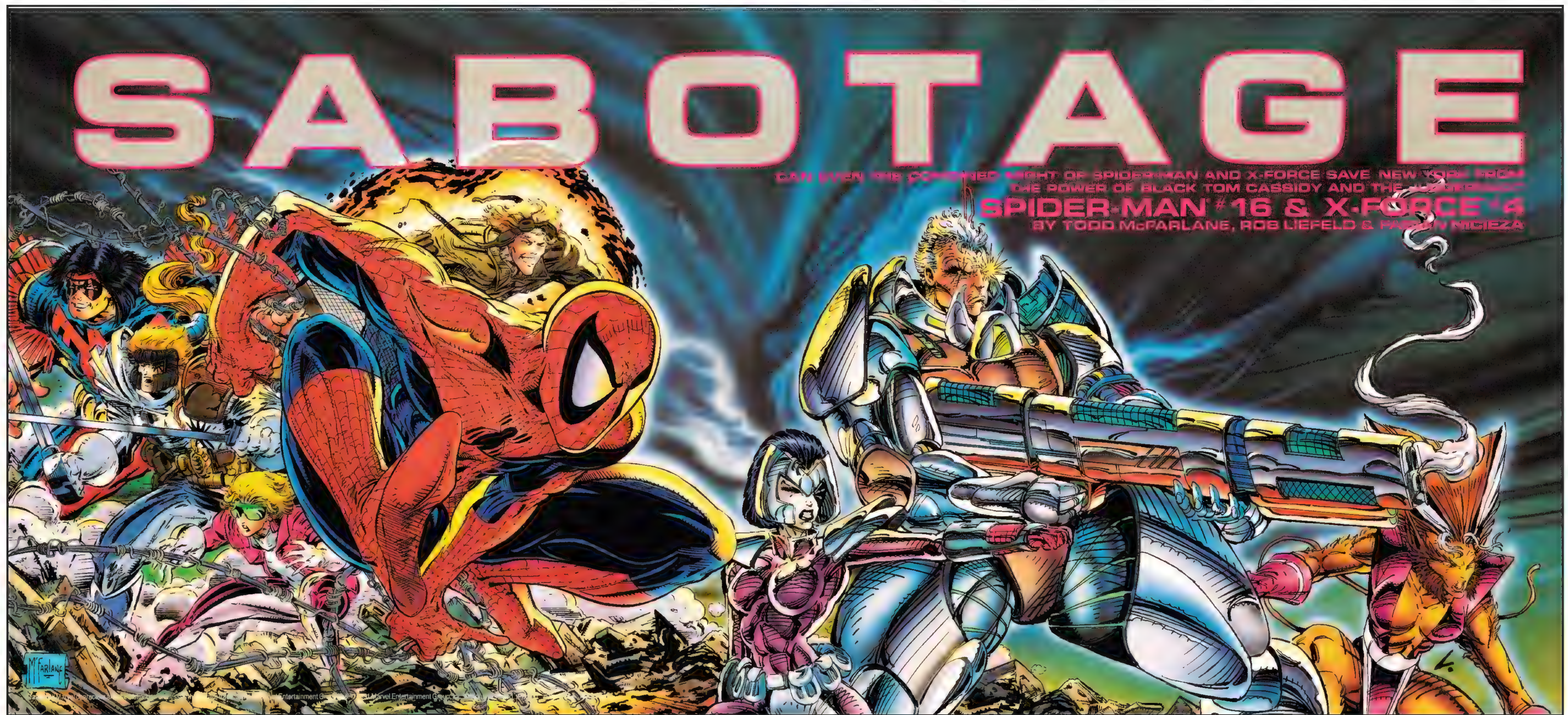
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TODD M'FARLANE

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TODD M'FARLANE



YOU FEEL YOURSELF WOBBLE--
JUST AS THE CREATURE
PREPARES TO FEED.

THE POUNDING
BECOMES LOUDER.

DOOM

AND LOUDER.

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AND LOUDER.

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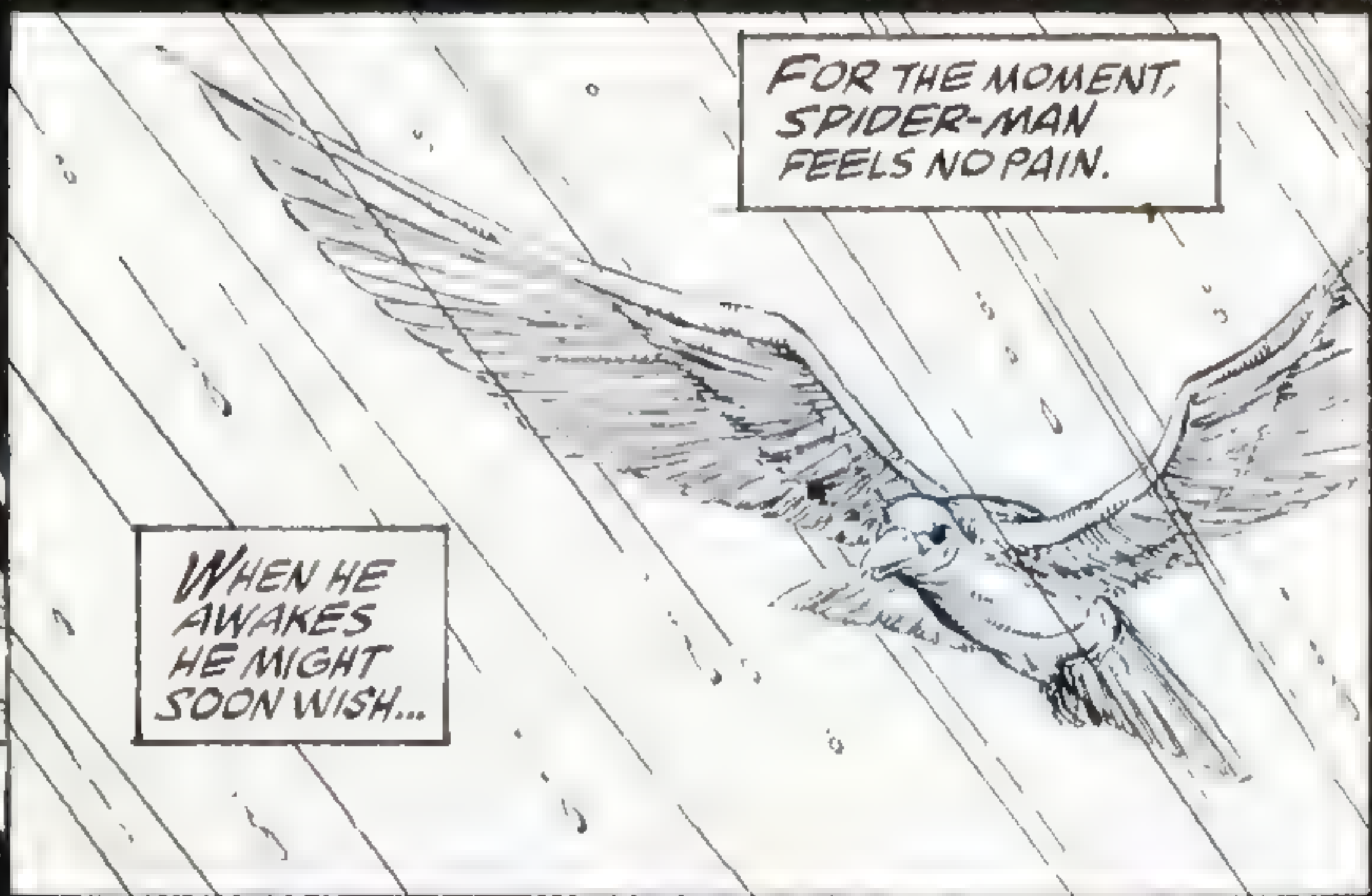
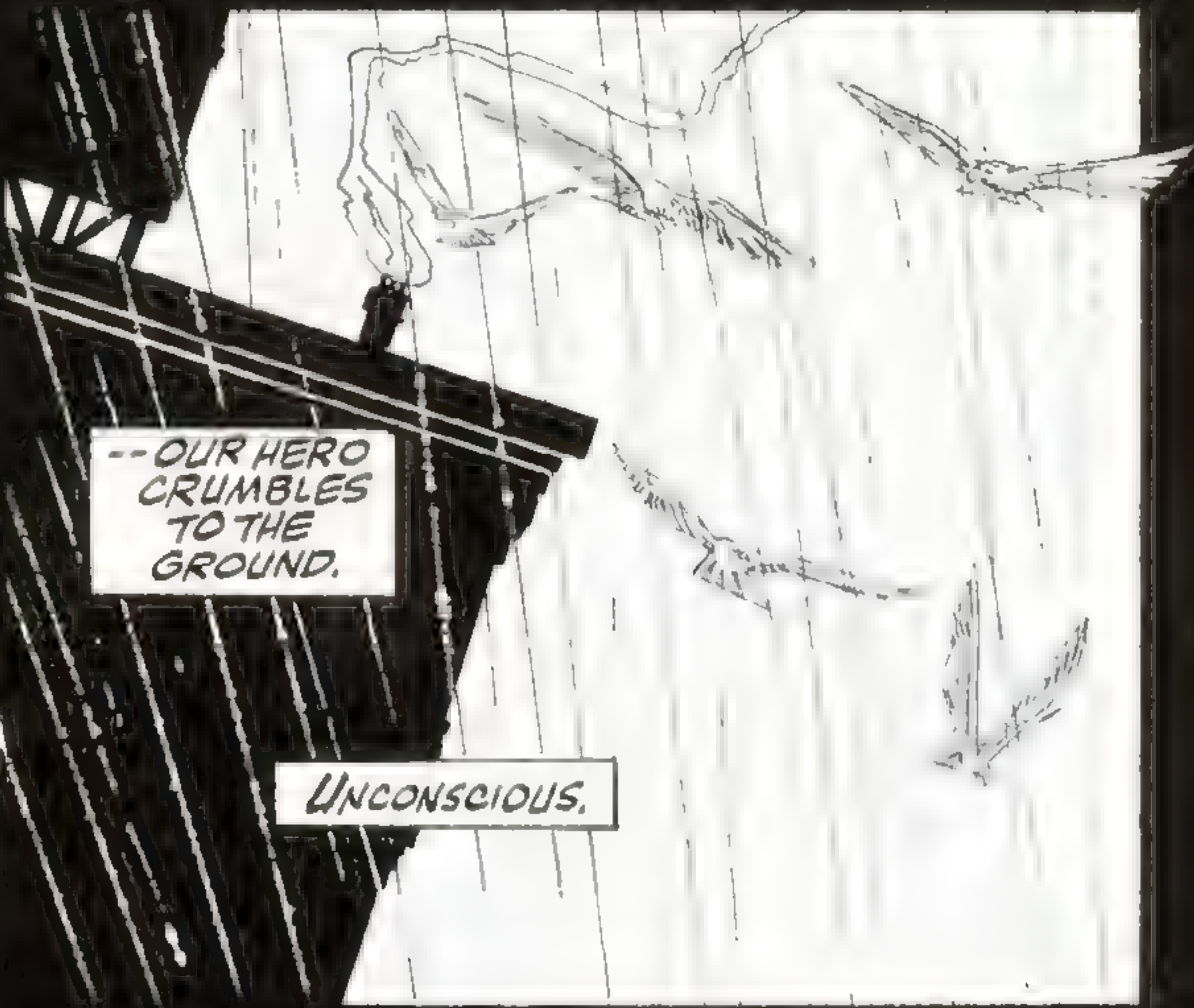
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-- OUR HERO
CRUMBLES
TO THE
GROUND.

UNCONSCIOUS.



FOR THE MOMENT,
SPIDER-MAN
FEELS NO PAIN.

WHEN HE
AWAKES
HE MIGHT
SOON WISH...

TODD M'FARLANE



TODD M'FARLANE

• STAT: (NEXT PART) FROM ISSUE 1.

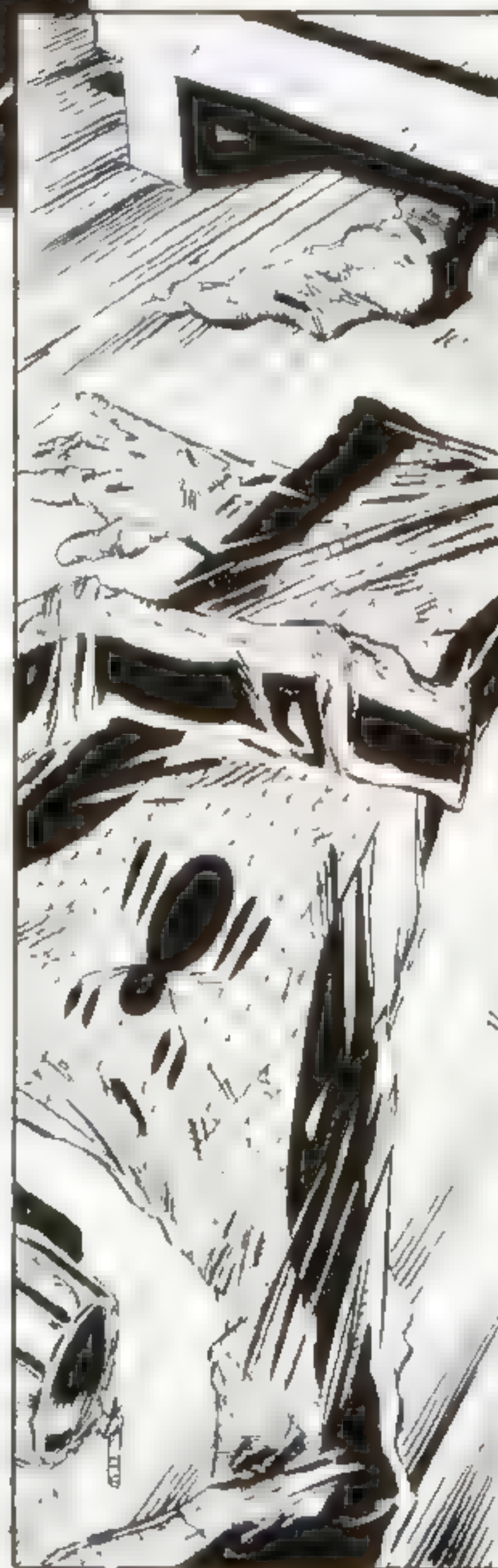
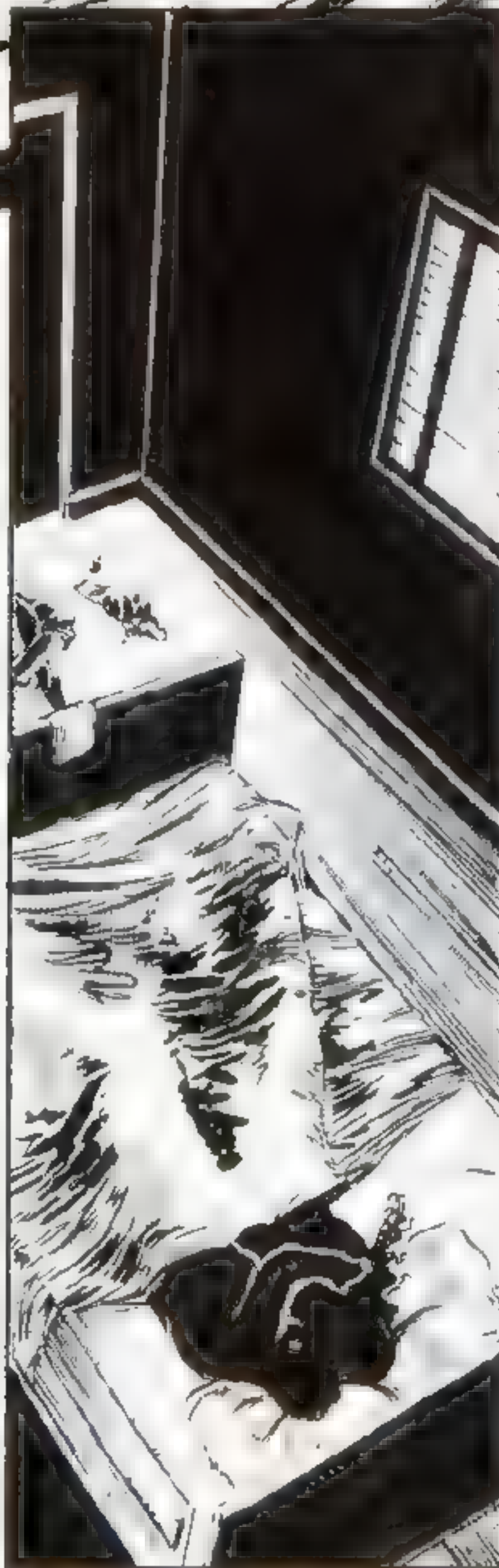
7000 • BLOOD • WATER DRIPPING DOWN ON ALL FACES/ARMS/LEGS



SPIDER-MAN® Vol. 1, No. 4, November, 1990. Published by MARVEL COMICS, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at New York, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.75 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: \$21.00 U.S.; \$26.00 Canada; and \$33.00 foreign. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SPIDER-MAN, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in Canada.

T. McFARLANE









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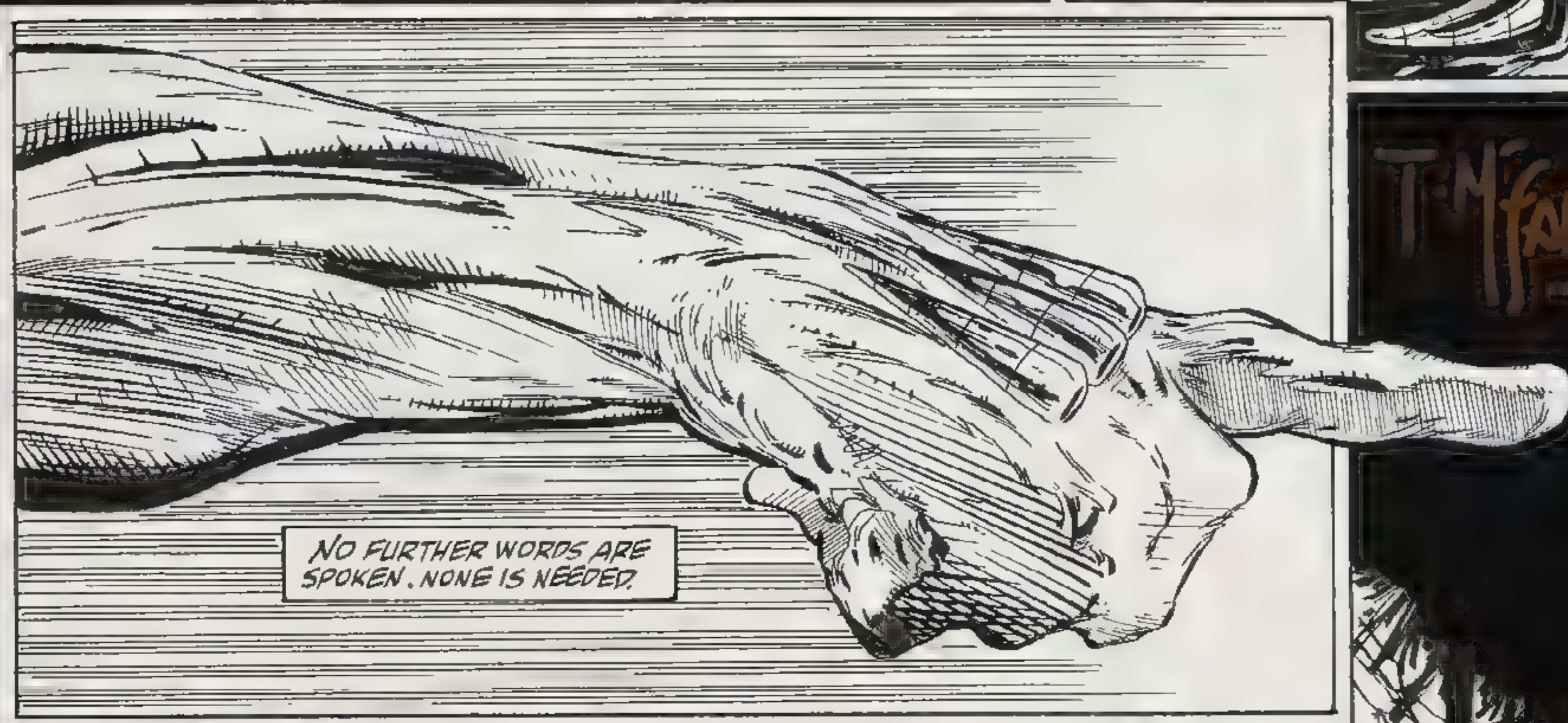
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"PERCEPTIONS" PART 1 OF 5

SPIDER-MAN



FOLD



GR66 - ALL CAPTIONS ARE WOLFFIE THINKING.

T.M. FARLAN



OKAY, BIG FELLA, I
GUESS IT'S TIME TO
JOIN YOU AT YOUR
LEVEL.



COSTUME WAS
BUGGIN' ME.

I NEED TO BE
AS FREE AS
POSSIBLE.

SEE HOW IT
REACTS TO
SOMETHING AS
SAVAGE



AS ANIMALISTIC



AS WILD AS
ITSELF

-91- TODD M'FORDONE

INKED BY SCOTT WILLIAMS

SPIDER-MAN

Issue 10

18

24



SCOTT WILLIAMS T. M'FARLANE



WEN-DI-GO!

WHAT NOW?

I'M JUST TRYING TO HELP. AT LEAST LET ME COVER THE BOY UP.



NO!

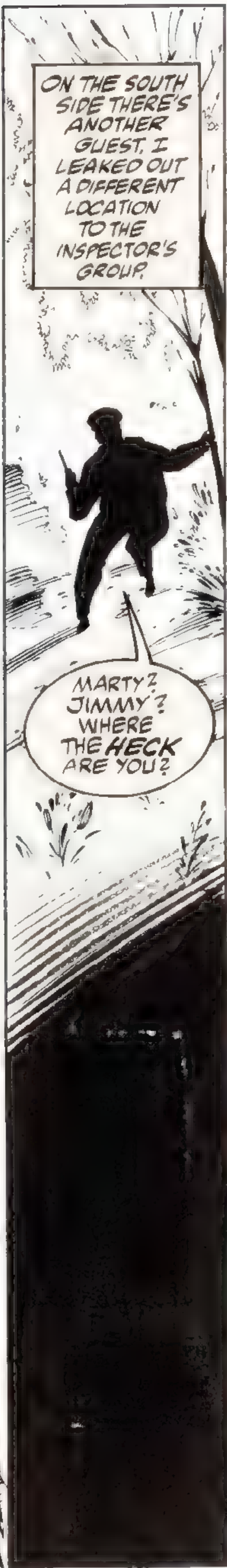
I NEED THE BOY OUT IN THE OPEN SO I CAN GET A CONFESSION. I WANT THE MURDERER TO SEE THE AFTERMATH OF HIS ACTIONS.

WENDIGO WILL KEEP ANY PREDATORS FROM THE BODY. YOUR JOB IS TO STOP THE HUMANS.

MINE'S TO MAKE THEM PAY.



T. M. FARLANE





% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR
ERIC FEIN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Well, folks, I know you don't want to hear this (or maybe some of you do), but this is my last issue of SPIDER-MAN for the foreseeable future. I'd like to thank a few people who, in my three or four year stay with Spider-Man, have made the stay more than a pleasure. First off, I'd like to thank *Rick Parker*, *Bob Sharen* and *Greg Wright* for adding their creative touches of coloring and lettering. Thanks to *Dan Cuddy* and *Glenn Herdling* for putting up with some of my bellyaching and dumb excuses for not getting work done on time. And I'd like to specifically thank *Jim Salicrup* for having enough confidence in me to allow changes to Spider-Man that helped push me and my career in a positive direction. He had the confidence to stick behind me even when I wasn't doing the right thing because he genuinely was concerned about me as a person first, and as a creator second. I'd like to say that in the time spent with Jim, the highest compliment I can pay him is that I never once thought of him as my editor, but as my friend. For this I'll always be grateful.

Now, the reason why I am quitting the book. On August 9, 1991, at 5:04 p.m., my wife and I were blessed with our first child. I had for months planned to take time off to be around my baby, and now that the time is here, seeing her pretty face makes that decision much easier. Besides seeing my daughter, Cyan, grow up, it's also time to lend a helping hand to my wife, Wanda, who has stood by me through thick and thin.

The other people without whom none of this could have been possible, are you, the readers. I thought that as a tribute to all the loyal Spider-Man fans out there, instead of answering regular mail, I would list the names of all of you who have written to me over the last couple of months. Those of you still writing after a year of publication are some of the most special fans that I could ever hope to have. Thanks for your support. Maybe we can do it again soon.

Carl Anderson, Brandon Sims, Jason Hibel, Ryan Mozert, Nathaniel Lee Cozart, Mike Hruden, Corey Corcoran, Jon Smith, Kevin Hurtack, Ken Dowsland, Andy Brown, Grae Desmond, Michael Siegenthuler, Eric Realander, Dough Boy, Ed Masiello, David Patchell, John Tripp, Josh Roesch, Todd Meyers, Randy Alicea, Michael Stevens, Michael Lynch, David McGruther, Cindy Lewis, Jessy Cosada, John Daniel Ceine, Kody Chamberlain, Chris Mackowski, Philip Rivera, Mark DeWolfe, Rob Hagen, Charles Biddy, Paul Ufford, Casey Carmical, Erech Overaker, Andrew Vungaro, Ben Sum, John Millner, Nathan Dreierhofer, Jack Lambert, Gary Stuckey, Joseph Battle, Greg Streuly, Dave Carlson, Christian P. Lichtner, Shannon Murphy, Patrick Smith, Aaron Hale, Michael Givnish Jr., Jason Shiroky, Dean Browell, David Hillard, Sean Kiley, Jason White, Nate Fanberg, Brian Neubauer, Jus. Atwood, Carlos Munoz, Jackie Rae Hannigan, Hard Harry, Clay Ketterman, Mark Sam, Alex Ferrari, Joey Hamill, Jose Valadez, Marc Fanberg, Michael Gabriel, Vince Kugler, Steve Dunagan, Tim Sattler, Cormac Cummane, McBride, Andrew Brown, Jason Olendese, Kirdes Noble, Michael Shirley, Steve Swenston, Riwan Khalil, Henry Kong, Miguel Corti, Evan Harris, Chris Connelly, Nick Viola, Grant Lee, Dan Garcia, David Velazquez, Chad Connally, Jeremi McGee, Chad Nuss, Derrick J. Courville, Joseph P. Berube, Brian Knowles, Anthony Donaldson, Fabian Sifuentes, Matthew French, Chris Algier, Chris Reiger, Brent Blakley, Lance Shaw, David Frueh, L.R. Goetz, Peggy Eagan, William Burrell, Charles Filler, Allen Whitt, Jason Bray, Brent Goldberg, Guy Demong, Simon Price, Miguel Bryant, Jacob Brennan, Doug Miller, Marc Lawrence, John R. Beck, Josh Reece, Edward Del Resco, Dominic Maisano, Rob Potchak, Steve Shirilla, Leo Tomei, Benjy Rodriguez, Dude Mann, Ken King, Jason Jacoby, John St. John, Justin Carmona, Tony Karnowski, Tim Luz Jr. Darren Cruz, Derek Paradis, Zachary Larner, Shane Salerner, Billy Church, Brian Milson Jr., Steve Shepp, Brad Brandhorst, Adam Liebling, Casey Robbins, Bill Demarest, Patrick Guthrie, Naser Subasic, Pete Leousis, Frank Sims, Jamie Trecycer, Dan Santoro, Brian Wilmet, Brian Barton, Dennis Cassidy, Steven Taylor, Jerry Nelson, David Davidson, Ray Kelley, Charlie Sydnor, Steve Sonnefeld, Joe Underwood, Jason Grimer, David Bourn, Ryan Will, Dan Russell, Paul J. Martinez, Ehud Iazin, David Brewer, Joey Burbo, David L. Alexander, Vincent Seiberling, Michael Davis, Richard Hopkins, Jason Burns, Daniel Ryan, Jose Corona, Jamie Trelleux, Lucas Johnson, Jonathon Colman, Ron Retsch, Clay Tipton, Peter Prichard, Chris Beebie, Ryan Cooper, Ken Krouner, Anthony Simeone, Cyhuck Moore, Ryan Pasquini, Matthew Solnit, Sean Knight, J.J. Miller, Logan Dempsey, Nick Guzik, Jon Priadka, Ryan Mozert, Gina Smith, M.C. Azha, Scott Hildebrandt, Dan Buczynski, Tao Ming Yeung, Jason Wiltz, Richard Hansen, Chris Webster, Christopher Tamayo, John Kretzer, Chad Sager, Tim Luz Jr., Vince Dill, Chris Allen, Scott Hinsel, Syed Waseg, John Yokitis, Wayne Mark, Mark Griffen, Cory Kleinschmidt, Jason Irving, Jason Hill, Jeff James, Tony So, Glenn H. Collier, Brad A. Davidson, Gooch, Kelly Babauta, Jimmy Walker, Carsopn Craig, Eric Wedige, Mike Leonard, Trent Link, Nic Weismiller, Gerald Kirkham, B.J. Sizemore, Scott Powels, James Cooper, Phillip Daniels, Rob Ayres, Matt Powers, The Pigeon, Bryan Lucas, Jim Waters, Marke Frenz, Michael Hoover, J. William McNeil, Jason Alexander, Alex Brashears, Greg Bayless, John W. Hildebrandt, Thomas Schloendorn, Chris Loch, Robert McIlroy, Mike Linley, Andrew Moodre, Joe Tolliver, Daniel Loew, David DeBoe, Ismael Davila, Steve Daila

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Here is the winner of the "Inker Contest" in Spider-man #10.

Muriel Ferrier

Congratulations, Muriel!

The page numbers, not counting advertisements, and inkers, were as follows:

Rick Magyar - Pages 7, 9, & 10
Rob Liefeld - Pages 15, 16
Scott Williams - Pages 14, 18
Jim Lee - Page 17

--Todd McFarlane

I hope all you Todd-fans will stick around, even with Todd leaving. We've got some special events lined up to entice you to do so. Next month, we've got a wild story by *Ann Nocenti*, *Rick Leonard* and *Al Williamson* in which Spider-Man dies. Really. Dies. It also features the villainy of *Thanos*!

Then, starting in issue #18 *Erik Larsen* (who so heroically pitched in with issue #15), will write, pencil and ink the five part "Revenge of the Sinister Six" featuring Doc Ock and the rest of Spidey's fiercest foes against the web-slinger (he really was dead; he got better) and some very special guests including *GHOST RIDER*, the *HULK* and some very hot characters we can't divulge yet. Not too shabby, eh?

Stick around. The next great era of SPIDER-MAN is about to begin. And you'll be here for it.

--Danny Fingeroth

THE BOOK THAT TRANSFORMED COMICS!

Todd McFarlane became a superstar illustrating *Amazing Spider-Man*, but he changed the industry forever with his next project: the "adjectiveless" *Spider-Man*! Taking on both writing and art duties, McFarlane ushered Peter Parker into a gritty new era — and it began with "Torment"! When the Big Apple's streets run red with blood, the web-slinger heads into the sewers to stop the Lizard's homicidal rampage. But what is driving his old friend and foe? Plus: Ghost Rider lends a bony hand when the deranged Hobgoblin returns, the wall-crawler finds himself at the center of a clash of claws between Wolverine and Wendigo, and Pete goes back in black to face Morbius the Living Vampire! And in the ultimate '90s team-up, Spidey joins X-Force to battle the unstoppable Juggernaut!



Collecting *Spider-Man* (1990) #1-14 and #16, and *X-Force* (1991) #4 — written by Todd McFarlane with Rob Liefeld and Fabian Nicieza; and illustrated by Todd McFarlane with Rob Liefeld.



In *X-Force* #3, Black Tom Cassidy and the Juggernaut took hostages inside the World Trade Center, including mutant businessmen Gideon and Sunspot. X-Force arrived and attacked the villains, and while Warpath battled Juggernaut in the street, Cable fought Black Tom on the roof. Just as Spider-Man swung by, an explosion rang out...

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X-FORCE

JOINS

SPIDER-MAN

**SPECIAL
SIDEWAYS
ISSUE!**

**SABOTAGE
PART
X-OVER 1**

BYE,
TODD

**MUTANTS AND NON-MUTANT
AGAINST THE UNSTOPPABLE
JUGGERNAUT!**

MR. ARLAN

CABLE, LEADER OF THE
MUTANT GROUP X-FORCE,
AND BLACK TOM CASSIDY,
WERE LOCKED IN BATTLE
HIGH ATOP THE WORLD TRADE
CENTER, NEITHER ONE WILLING
TO GIVE AN INCH.

THAT WAS A
MINUTE AGO.

OUTSIDE, PETER PARKER--
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
SPIDER-MAN-- WAS SWINGING
MERRILY ON HIS WAY TO THE
DAILY BUGLE.

THAT WAS THIRTY
SECONDS AGO.

BLACK TOM DETONATED
A BOMB.

THAT WAS TWO
SECONDS AGO.

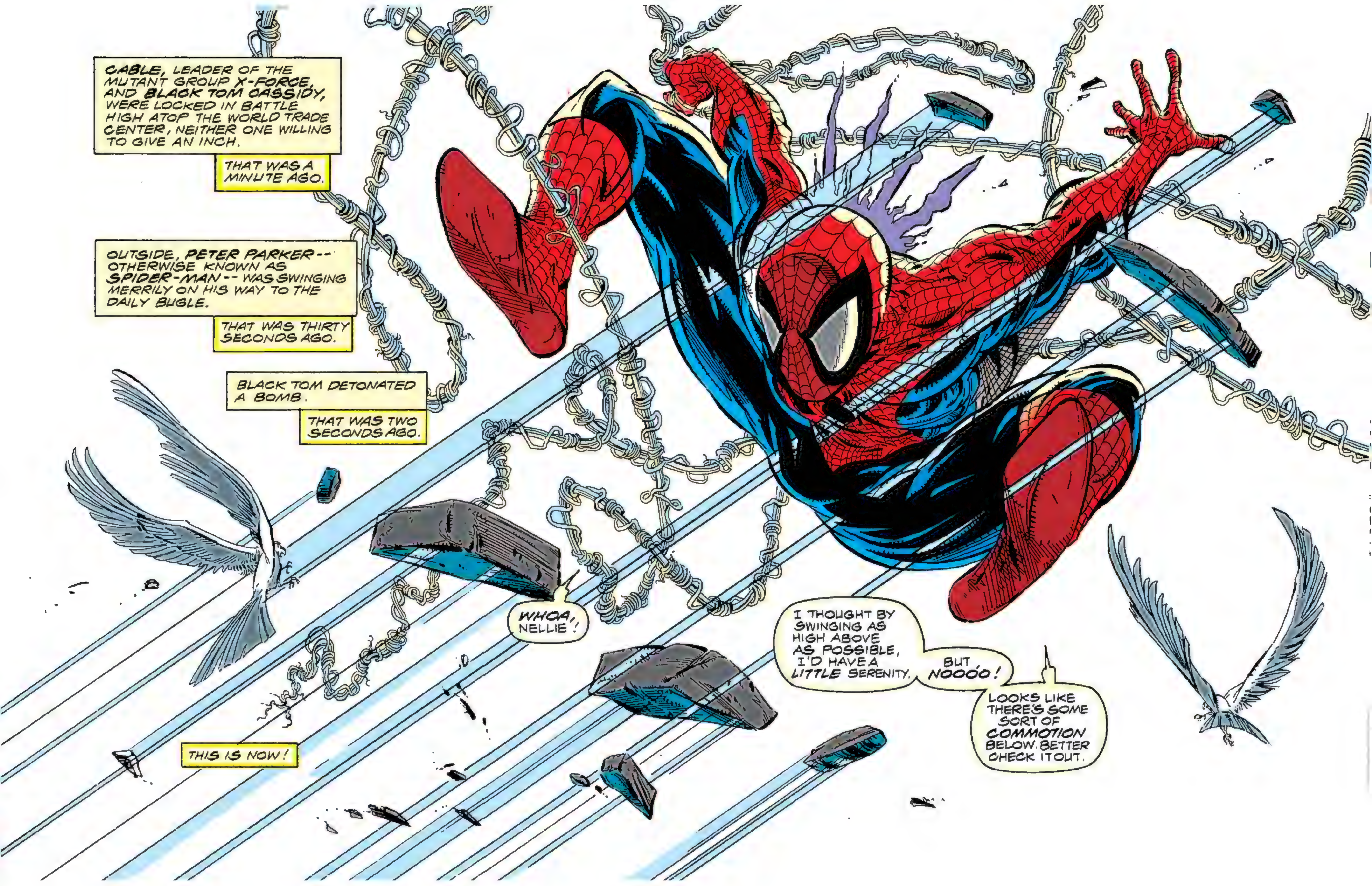
WHOA,
NELLIE!

I THOUGHT BY
SWINGING AS
HIGH ABOVE
AS POSSIBLE,
I'D HAVE A
LITTLE SERENITY.

BUT
NOOOO!

LOOKS LIKE
THERE'S SOME
SORT OF
COMMOTION
BELOW. BETTER
CHECK IT OUT.

THIS IS NOW!



THE
SABOTAGE

CROSS-OVER

PART ONE

SPECIAL ASSIST BY ROB LIEFELD

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

TODD
McFARLANE
STORY
PENCILS
INKS

GREG
COLORS
WRIGHT

CHRIS
LETTERS
ELIOPoulos

DANNY
EDITOR
FINGEROTH

TOM
CHIEF
DeFALCO

OH NO, NOT
JUGGERNAUT!

YOU'D BETTER
SAY YOUR
PRAYERS, PAL!

'CAUSE IF THAT'S
THE BEST YOU CAN
DO, THIS FIGHT IS
GONNA BE OVER
A LOT SOONER
THAN YOU'D LIKE

I'LL FINISH
YOU, THEN I'M
OUTTA HERE.

'CAUSE THINGS
ARE GETTIN' A
BIT TOO MESSY
FOR MY LIKING.





AND THERE
AIN'T NO ONE
GONNA STOP
ME, TONTO!

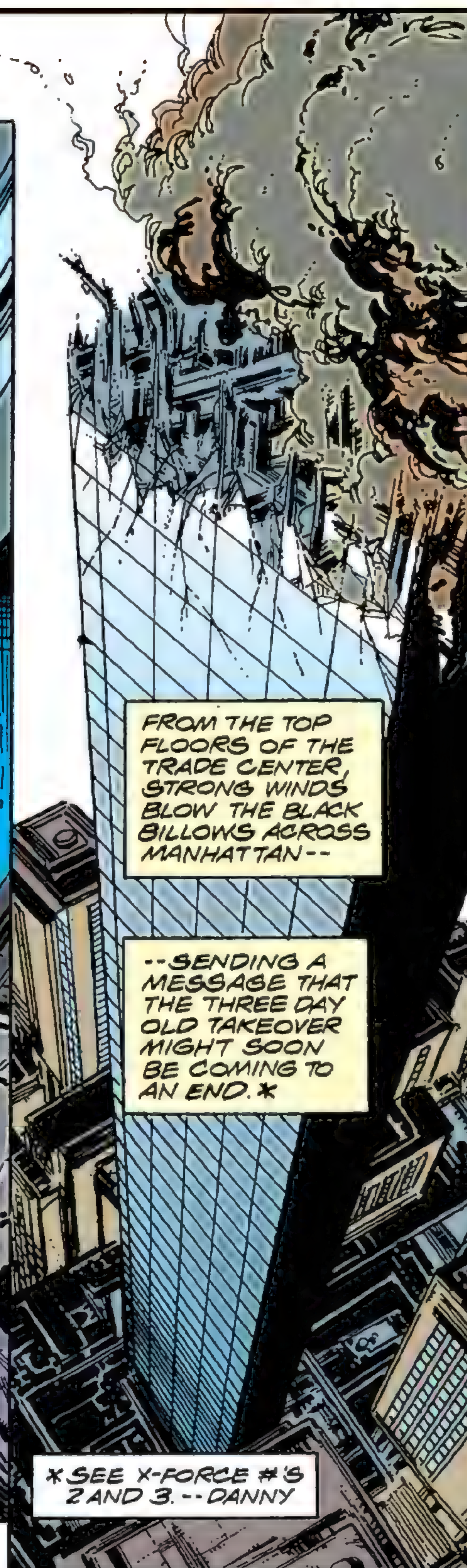
WHY DOES IT NOT
SURPRISE ME THAT
YOUR EVIL ALSO
INCLUDES RACISM?
LOOKING TO MAKE
YOURSELF BETTER
AT THE EXPENSE
OF OTHERS.

WELL, YOU
HAVEN'T HURT
ME SO FAR,
EITHER.

SO WHY DON'T
WE TURN THIS
FIGHT UP A
NOTCH?

BUDDY, I
DON'T HAVE
TIME FOR
YOU.

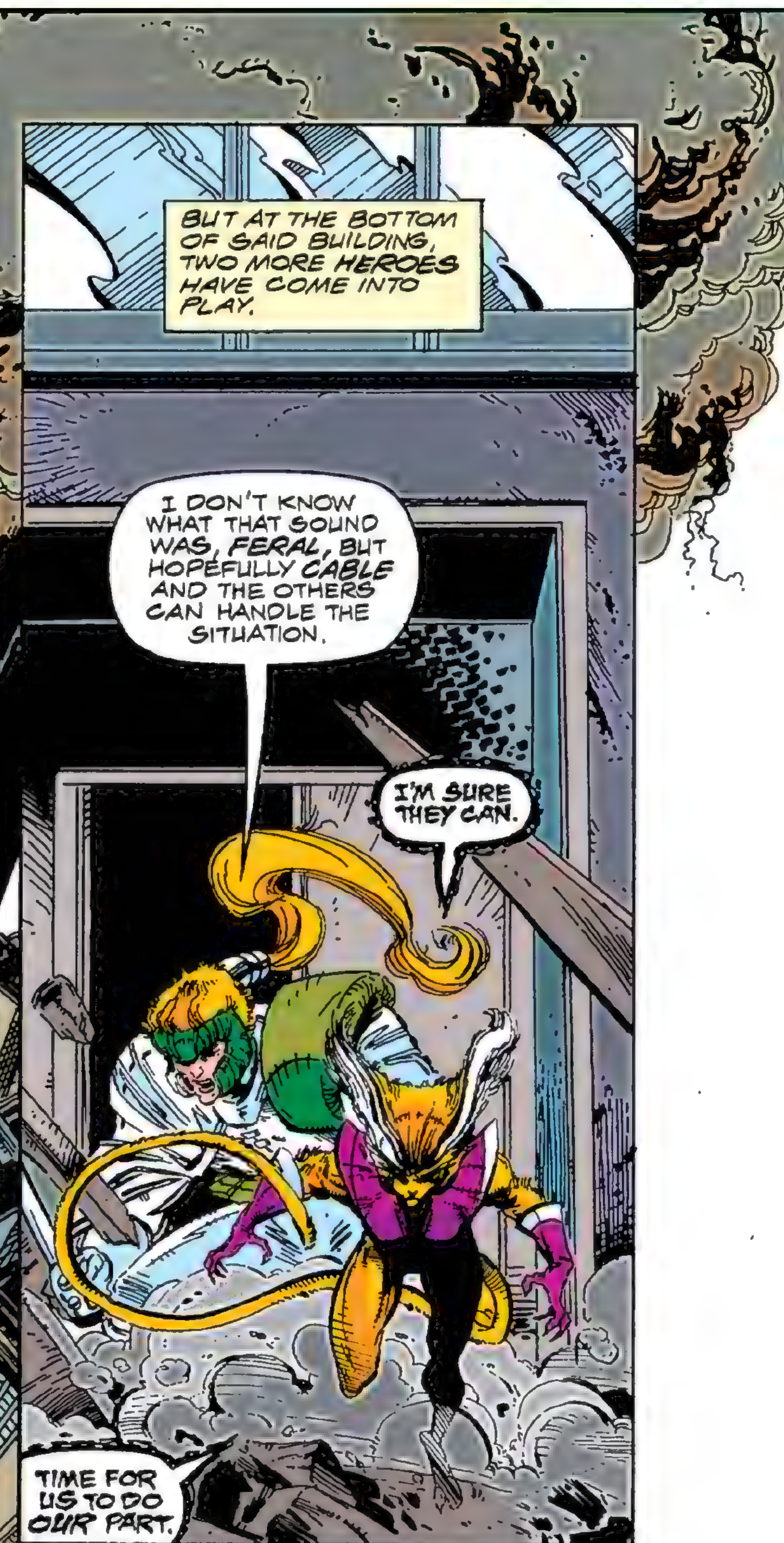
THEN,
MAKE
IT!



FROM THE TOP
FLOORS OF THE
TRADE CENTER,
STRONG WINDS
BLOW THE BLACK
BILLOWS ACROSS
MANHATTAN--

--SENDING A
MESSAGE THAT
THE THREE DAY
OLD TAKEOVER
MIGHT SOON
BE COMING TO
AN END.*

*SEE X-FORCE #'S
2 AND 3.--DANNY



BUT AT THE BOTTOM
OF SAID BUILDING,
TWO MORE HEROES
HAVE COME INTO
PLAY.

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT THAT SOUND
WAS, FERAL, BUT
HOPEFULLY CABLE
AND THE OTHERS
CAN HANDLE THE
SITUATION.

I'M SURE
THEY CAN.

TIME FOR
US TO DO
OUR PART.



WARPATH, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU **STANDING!**

I THOUGHT YOU COULD USE A LITTLE HELP FROM A **TRUE WARRIOR.**

THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN, SHATTERSTAR. I'M TOUCHED. WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS?

SHOULD I OR SHOULD I NOT?

AW, DANG IT! I'M GOING TO HATE MYSELF FOR THIS.

WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THEM LATER.



FOR NOW, I WANT TO SEE JUST HOW TOUGH HIS SKIN IS WHEN IT MEETS MY **RAZOR SHARP CLAWS.**

FERAL, NO! WE CAN'T LET YOU ATTACK BY YOURSELF. IF I COULDN'T STOP HIM, WHAT CHANCE WOULD YOU HAVE?

WAY TO BUILD HER CONFIDENCE, **INTJUN'.**

ON MY WORD,
PREPARE TO--

ATTACK!

YOUSE GUYS
ARE DUMBER
THAN COWS
BEING LED TO
SLAUGHTER.

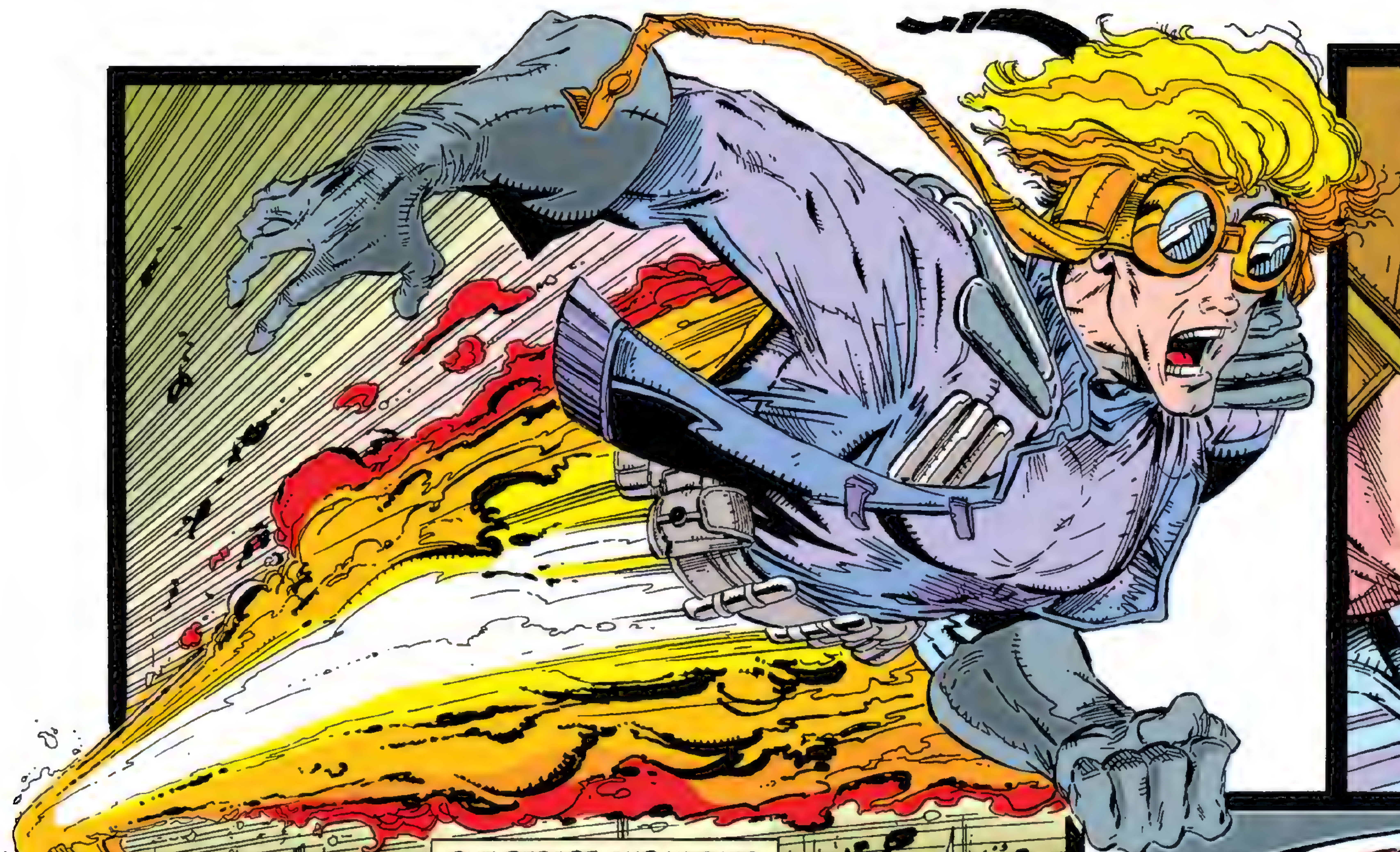
THOSE KIDS
DON'T KNOW WHAT
THEY'RE GETTING
THEMSELVES INTO.
JUGGERNAUT HAS
YET TO BE
STOPPED DEAD
IN HIS TRACKS.
WHEN HE DECIDES
IT'S TIME TO GO--
IT'S TIME TO
GO!!

SO WHETHER
THEY WANT IT OR
NOT, THEY'RE
GOING TO NEED
HELP FROM A
PAST JUGGERNAUT
OPPONENT.

UNFORTUNATELY,
I'M THE ONLY
ONE HERE WHO
FITS THAT BILL.

WHERE I COME
FROM, WARRIORS
WIN FIGHTS WITH
SKILL AND
DETERMINATION,
NOT WITH SHALLOW
THREATS.

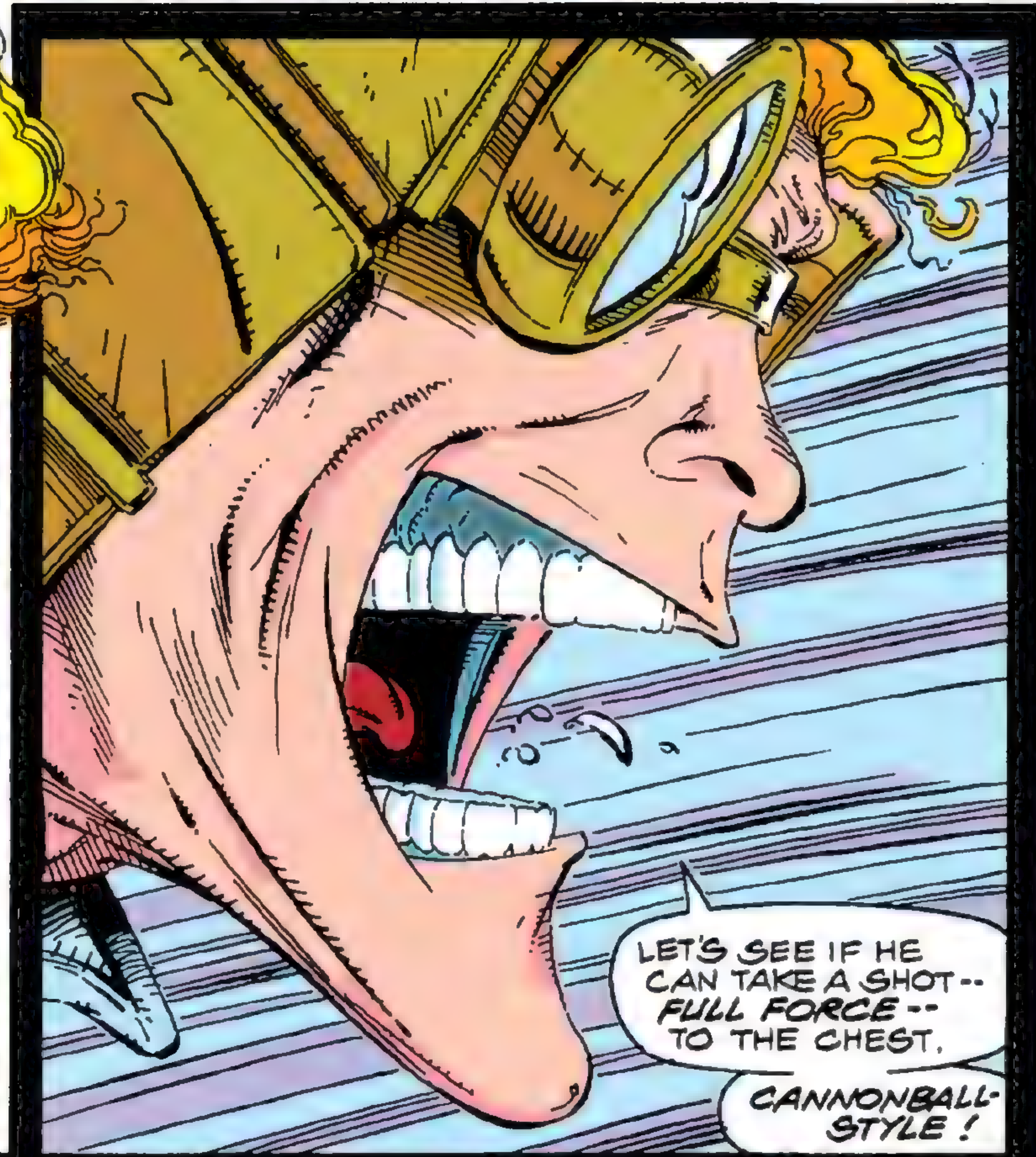
LET'S SEE
WHAT KIND
OF WARRIOR
YOU ARE.



BUT BEFORE OUR HEROES
CAN MAKE FINAL CONTACT,
THEY ARE DEAFENED BY
THE SOUND OF A FLYING
ROCKET.

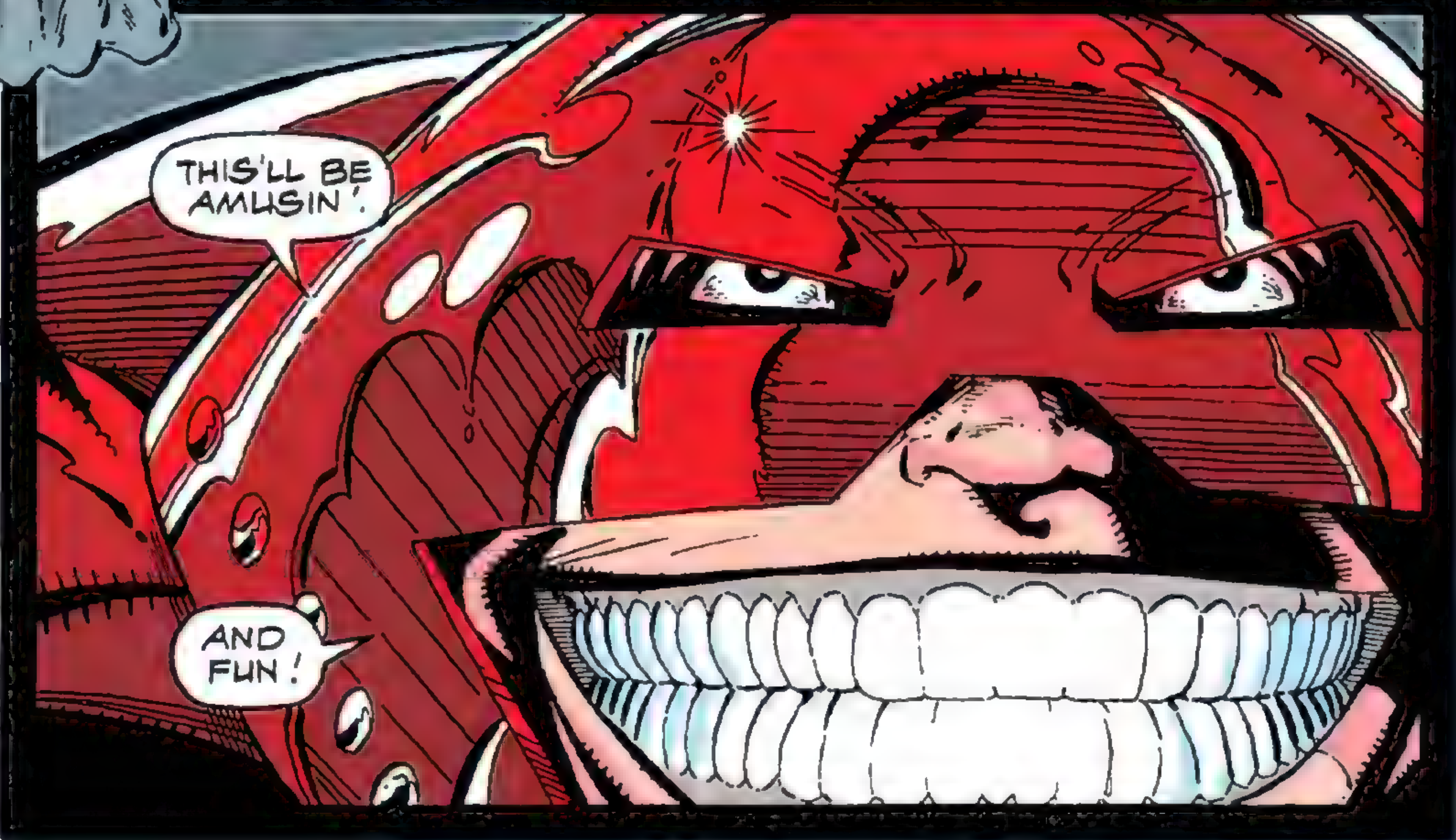
HEADS
UP, GANG!

THE ROCKET'S
NAME IS SAM
GUTHRIE. A.K.A.
CANNONBALL.



LET'S SEE IF HE
CAN TAKE A SHOT--
FULL FORCE--
TO THE CHEST.

CANNONBALL-
STYLE!



THIS'LL BE
AMUSIN'.

AND
FUN!



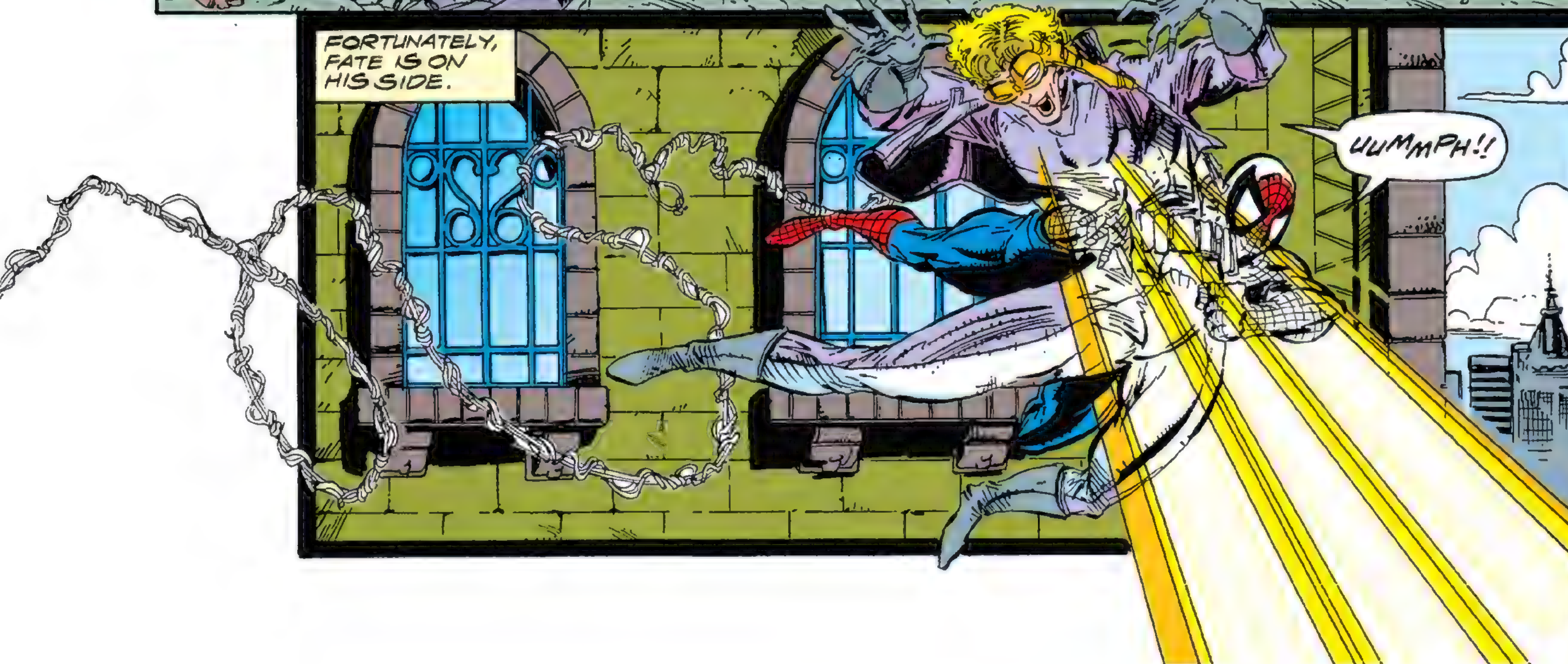
LUCKILY FOR SAM, HIS BODY IS PROTECTED FROM HARM WHEN IT IS IN ROCKET MODE.

BUT THE SHEER IMPACT HAS DISRUPTED HIS POWER. SO SAM IS ONCE AGAIN JUST HUMAN.

HURLING 137 MILES AN HOUR TOWARDS CONCRETE WALLS WON'T HELP THE SITUATION ANY.

OOPS.

FORTUNATELY, FATE IS ON HIS SIDE.



UUMMPH!!



IZZAT YOU-- MOM?!

KID, I THINK YOUR TEAM'S LACKING A BIT OF LEADERSHIP.

WHERE'S CABLE?

THAT'S A QUESTION
ON EVERYONE'S
MIND.

TO FIND THE ANSWER,
WE MUST LOOK PAST
THE DESTRUCTION TO
THE FLOORS JUST
BELOW THE IMPACT.

IT IS HERE WE
FIND CABLE
AND THE REST
OF THE SURVIVING
X-FORCE.

EVERYONE'S
ACCOUNTED
FOR--GOOD!

MY ARMOR SHIELDED
ME. BUT IT SAYS
SOMETHING THAT YOU
GUYS MADE IT WITHOUT
THAT KIND OF PROTECTION.


MAN!
WHAT A
MESS!

CABLE! WHERE
IS BLACK TOM?
I THOUGHT HE
WAS STANDING
BY YOU WHEN
THE BOMB WENT
OFF.

I DON'T KNOW.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING
FOR HIS BODY IN
THE WRECKAGE SINCE
THE SMOKE CLEARED--
BUT I CAN'T FIND
A TRACE OF HIM.

FOR NOW, I
NEED YOU AND
SIRYN TO GET
DOWNSTAIRS
AND SEE WHAT
HAPPENED TO
WARPATH AND
JUGGERNAUT.

TELL THE TEAM
TO TAKE HIM OUT
AS FAST AS
POSSIBLE. I'M
GOING AFTER
BLACK TOM!



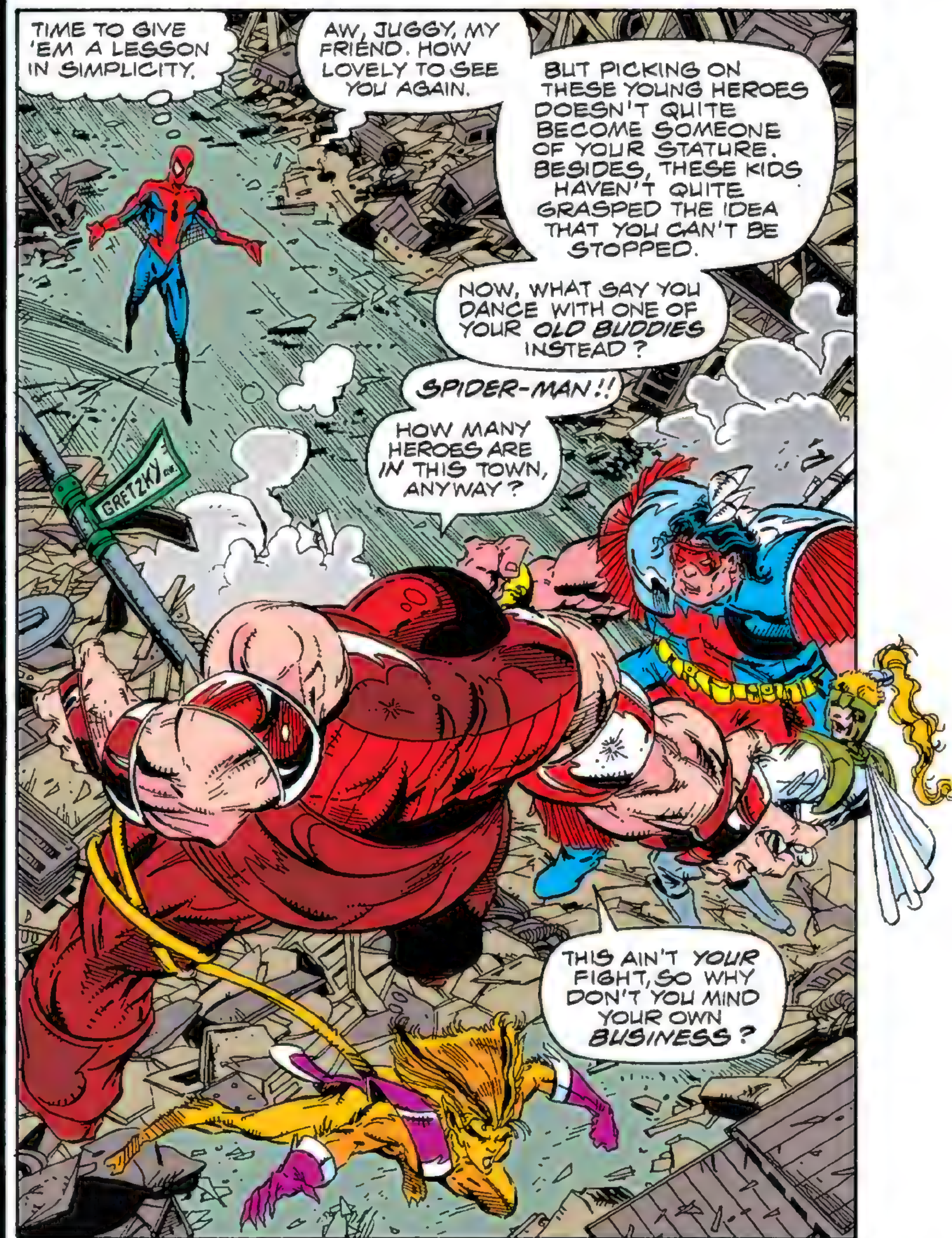
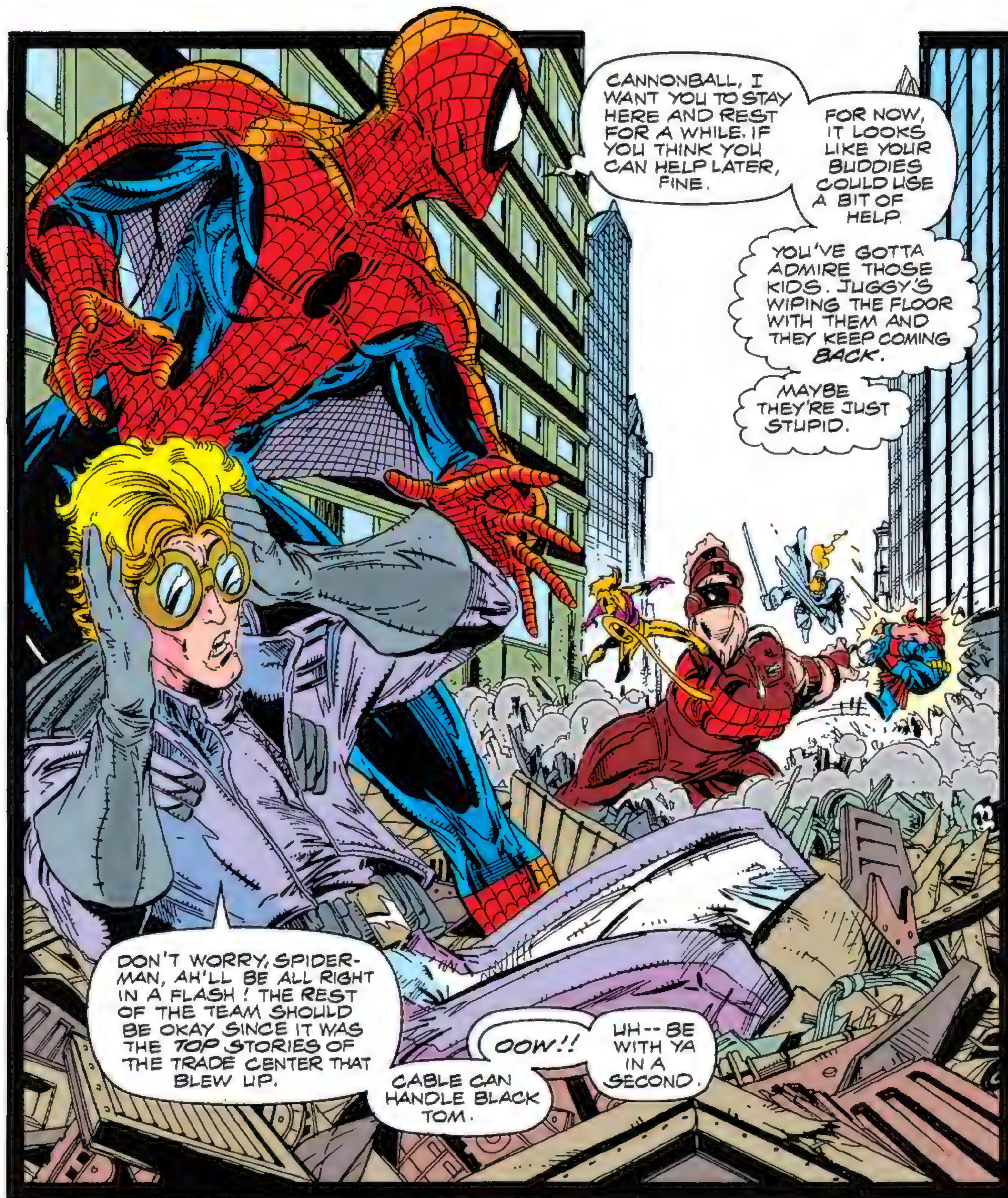
"THE OTHERS--IF
THEY'RE ALIVE--
WILL HAVE TO FEND
FOR THEMSELVES!!"

GIVEN THE ENORMITY
OF THEIR TASK, THESE
YOUNGSTERS ARE
DOING QUITE WELL.

NOT THAT THE
JUGGERNAUT'S
BEING STOPPED--
OR THAT THESE
X-FORCERS ARE
WINNING.

NO, WHAT IS IMPRESSIVE
IS, FOR ALL THEIR POWER--
WHICH IS REALLY NOTHING
COMPARED TO THE HULKING
BEHEMOTH--NONE HAS
DIED YET.

AND FOR A SPLIT SECOND,
THEY'VE ACTUALLY STARTED
ACTING LIKE A TEAM.





THAT'S RIGHT, FOLLOW ORDERS LIKE **GOOD** LITTLE SOLDIERS.

HAS ANYONE STOPPED TO THINK THAT BY LISTENING TO YOUR SO-CALLED LEADER, **EVERYTHING** HAS BEEN SCREWED UP?

POSSIBLE CASUALTIES, MILLIONS IN DAMAGE AND NO CRIMINAL. THAT'S A HECK OF A RECORD SO FAR.

YOU OTHERS MIGHT HAVE A DEATH WISH, BUT I'M SICK OF LISTENING TO THIS GREY-HAIRED RAMBO.



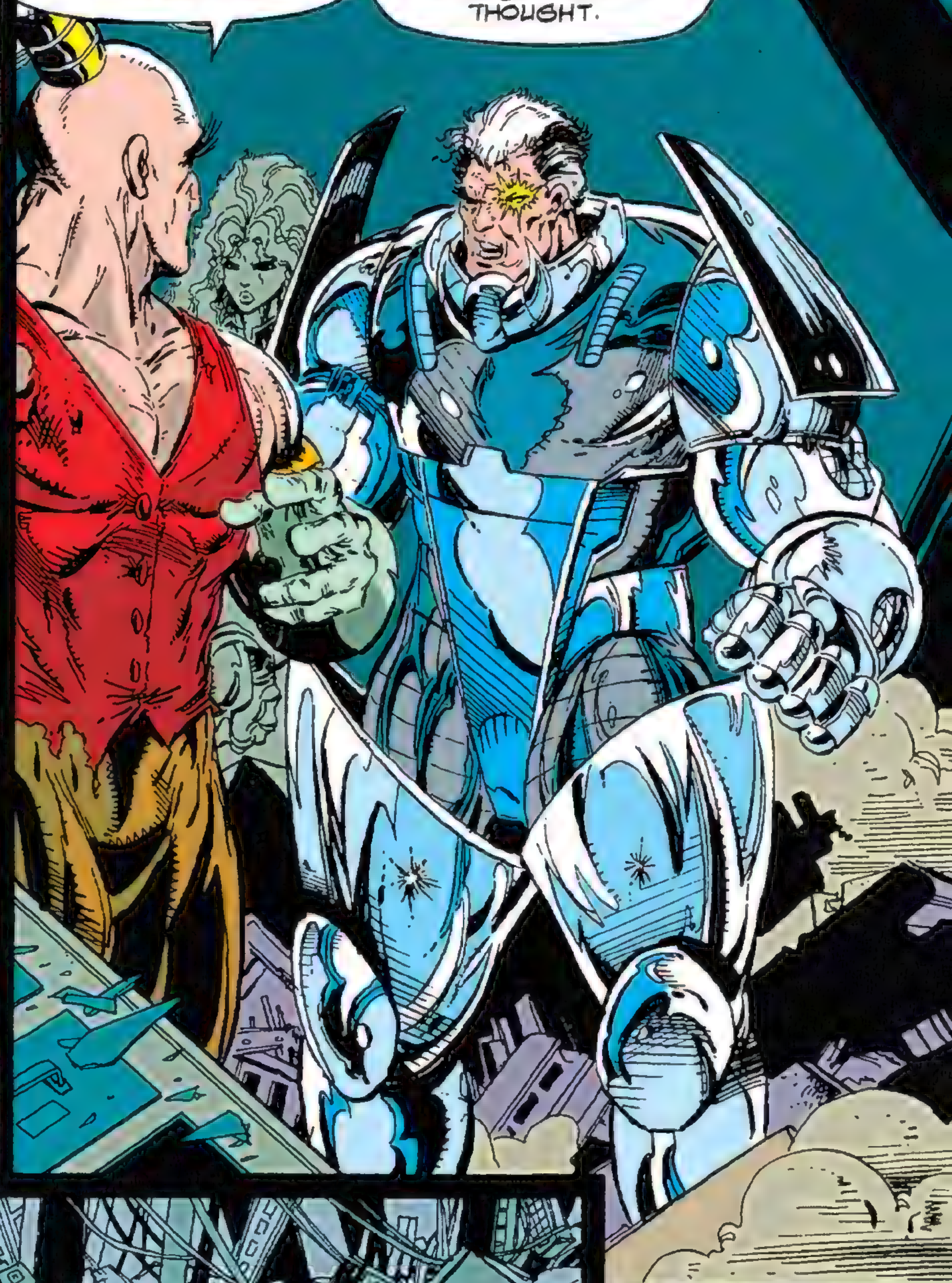
YOU'VE GOT TO BE **KIDDING!**

NOW, TELL ME, WHO DIED AND MADE YOU **KING**? I DON'T LIKE THIS ANY BETTER THAN YOU DO-- **NONE** OF US DOES!

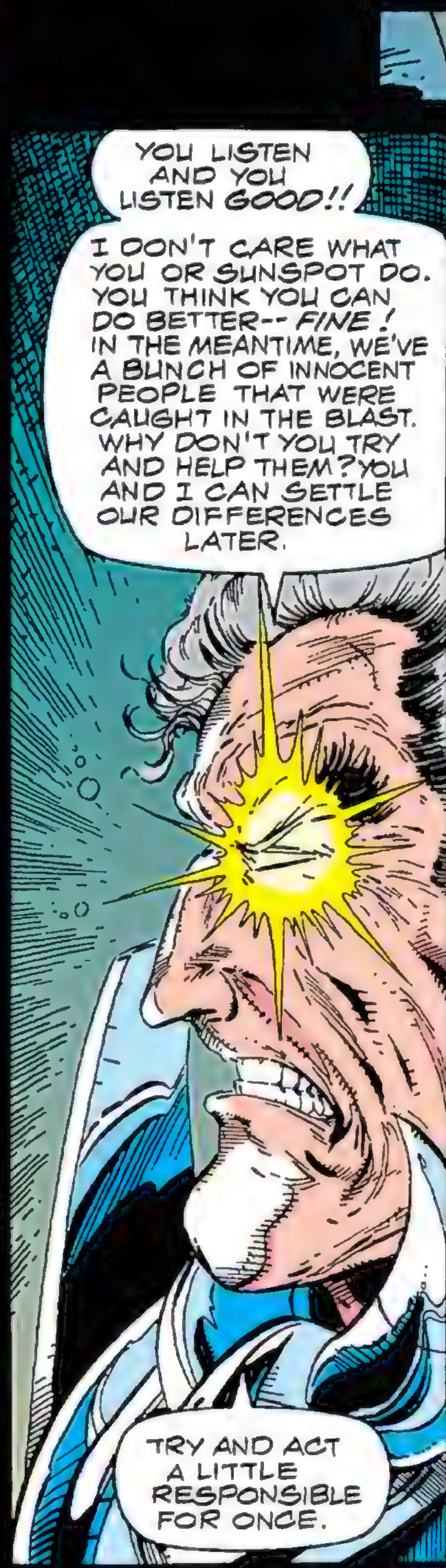
WE DIDN'T **START** THIS, BUT WE SURELY CAN TRY TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP IT.

IT'S NOT THE STOPPING I'M CONCERNED ABOUT. WHAT BUGS **ME** IS THAT I DON'T THINK **CABLE** WANTS TO END THIS SO FAST.

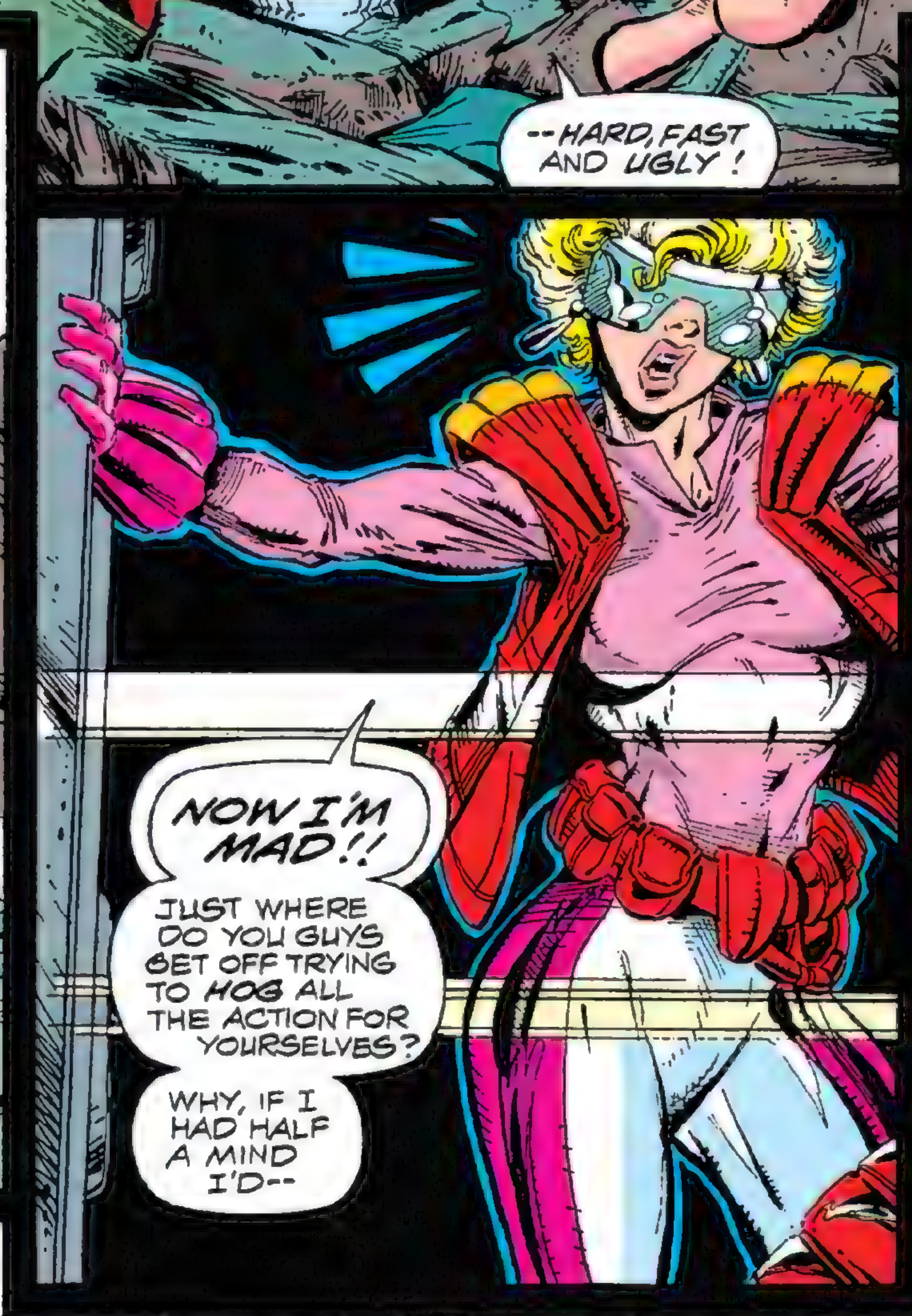
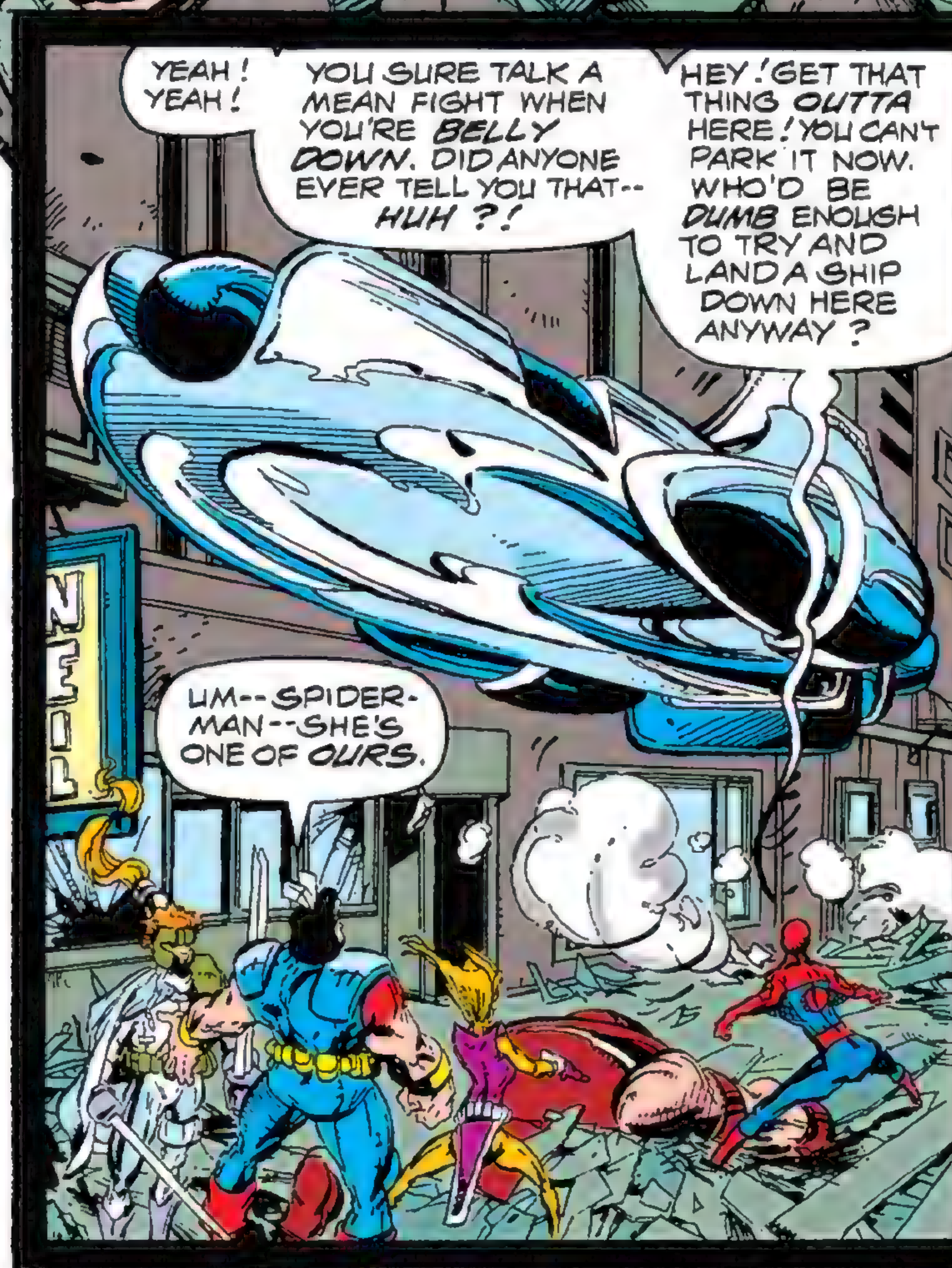
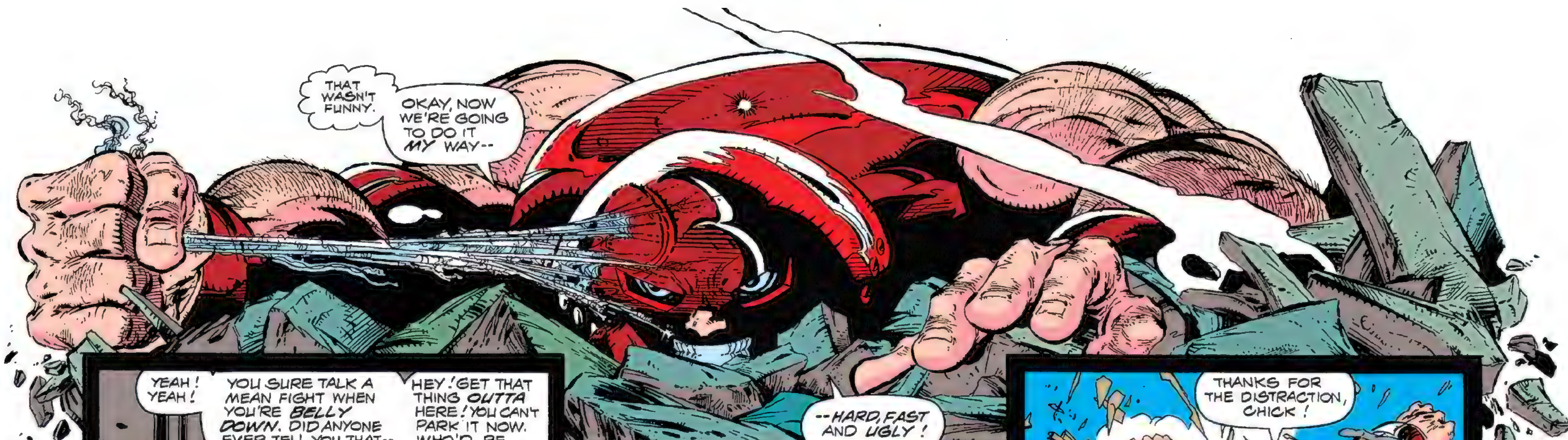
I ACTUALLY THINK HE'S ENJOYING HIMSELF, AND THE REST OF US -- THE GENERAL PUBLIC INCLUDED -- ARE **JUST** AN AFTER-THOUGHT.



CLAM UP.







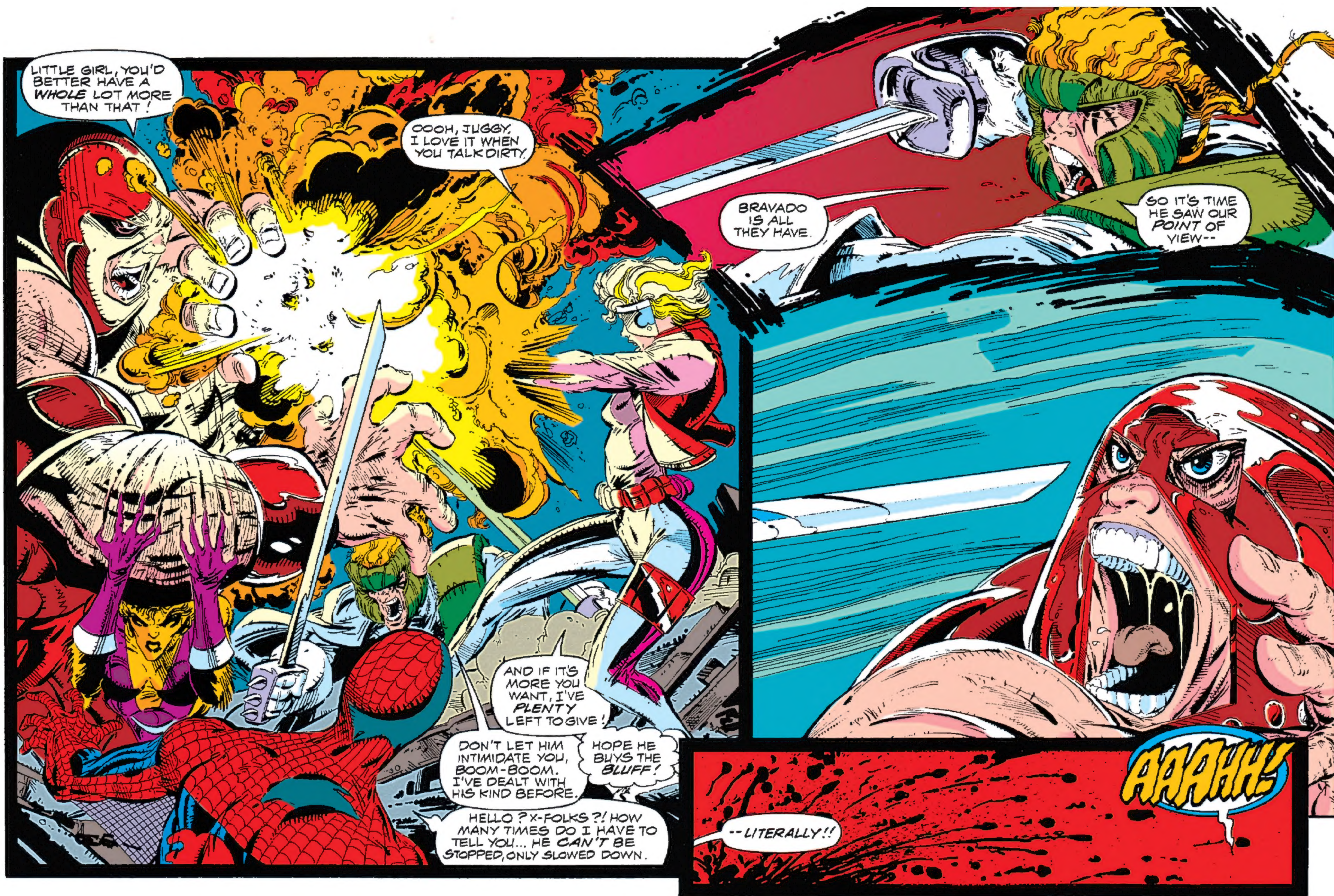
AS A MATTER OF
FACT, DO WHAT-
EVER YOU WANT.
I DON'T CARE. BUT
I'VE GOT A PSYCHO
TO CATCH-- MUST
HAVE LEFT TRACKS
SOMEWHERE--AND
I WON'T BE
SLOWED DOWN.

IF YOU THINK I'M
HERE TO BABYSIT,
THINK AGAIN. I FIGURE
YOU'RE ALL BIG
ENOUGH TO MAKE
THE RIGHT DECISIONS
ON YOUR OWN.

IF NOT, THEN
GET OUT OF
THE WAY!!
'CAUSE I CAN'T
STOMACH THOSE
WHO WON'T DEAL
WITH THEIR
OCCUPATIONAL
HAZARDS!

WHEN YOU STOP
POUTING, SEE
IF YOU CAN'T
HELP THE BUSINESS
FOLKS.





LITTLE GIRL, YOU'D BETTER HAVE A WHOLE LOT MORE THAN THAT!

OOOH, JUGGY, I LOVE IT WHEN YOU TALK DIRTY.

BRAVADO IS ALL THEY HAVE.

SO IT'S TIME HE SAW OUR POINT OF VIEW--

AND IF IT'S MORE YOU WANT, I'VE PLENTY LEFT TO GIVE!

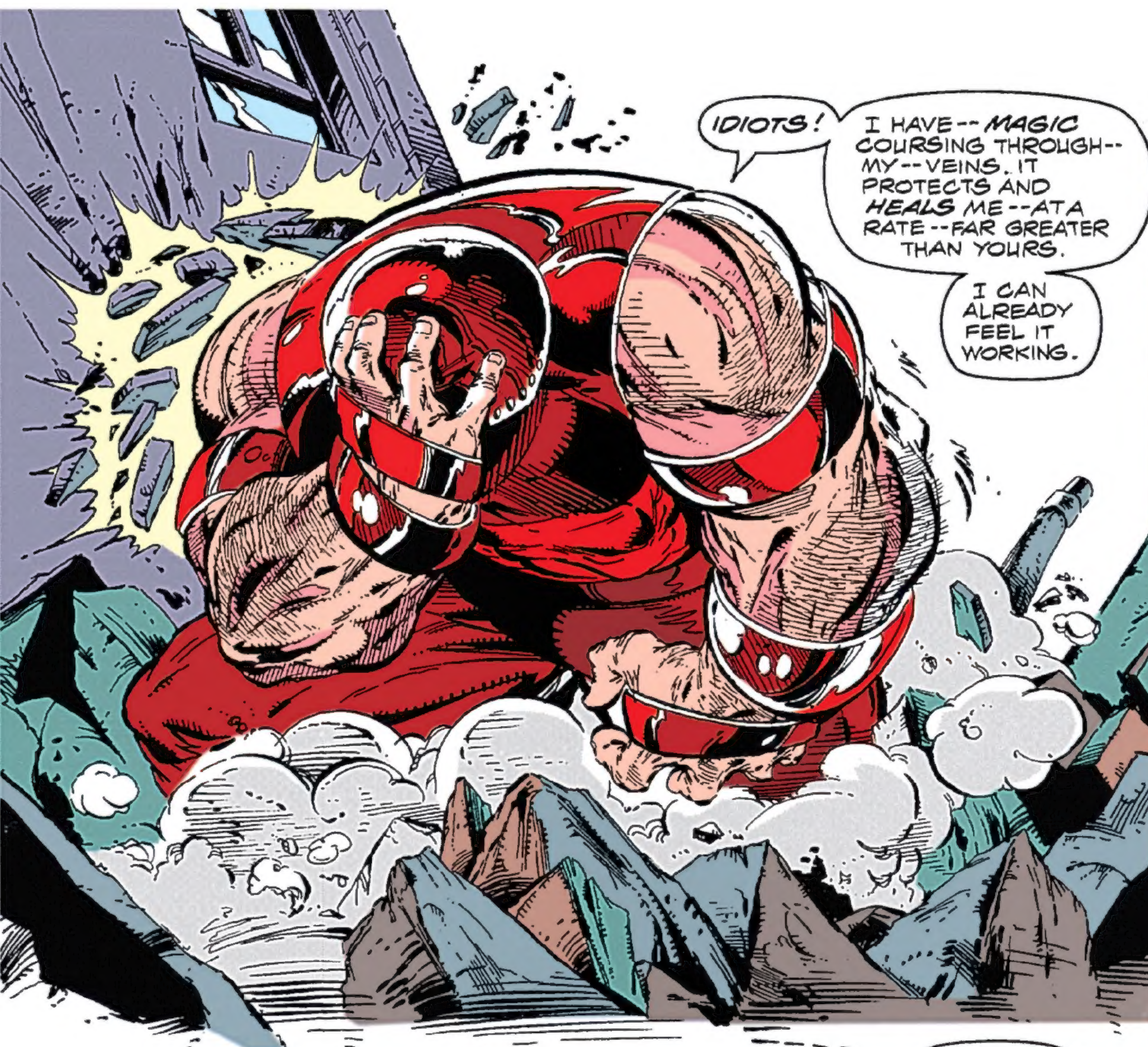
DON'T LET HIM INTIMIDATE YOU, BOOM-BOOM. I'VE DEALT WITH HIS KIND BEFORE.

HOPE HE BUYS THE BLUFF!

HELLO? X-FOLKS?! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU... HE CAN'T BE STOPPED, ONLY SLOWED DOWN.

-- LITERALLY!!

AAAAHHH!



IDIOTS!

I HAVE-- MAGIC
COURSING THROUGH--
MY--VEINS. IT
PROTECTS AND
HEALS ME--ATA
RATE--FAR GREATER
THAN YOURS.

I CAN
ALREADY
FEEL IT
WORKING.



THERE!!

I CAN
SEE
AGAIN.

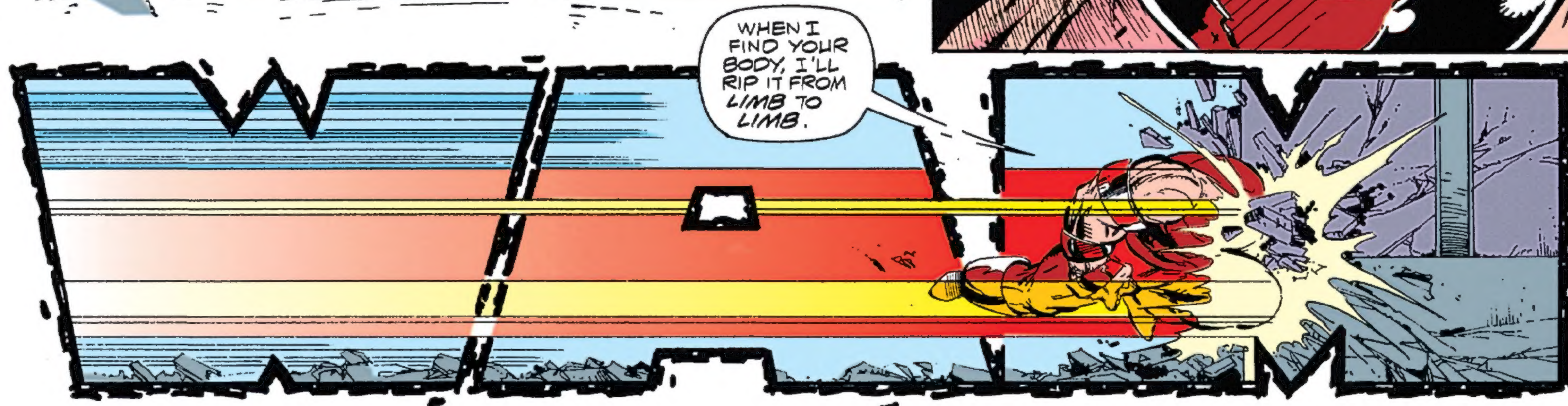
BUT THAT STUPID ACT
JUST BOUGHT YOU A
DEATH SENTENCE. I
WAS ONLY TRYING TO
LEAVE. WITHOUT BLACK
TOM, I HAD NO USE
FOR FIGHTING.

TOO BAD
YOU WON'T
ACCEPT
THAT.

FINE
BY ME.

IT'S ALREADY
A GREAT DAY
FOR YOU TO
DIE.

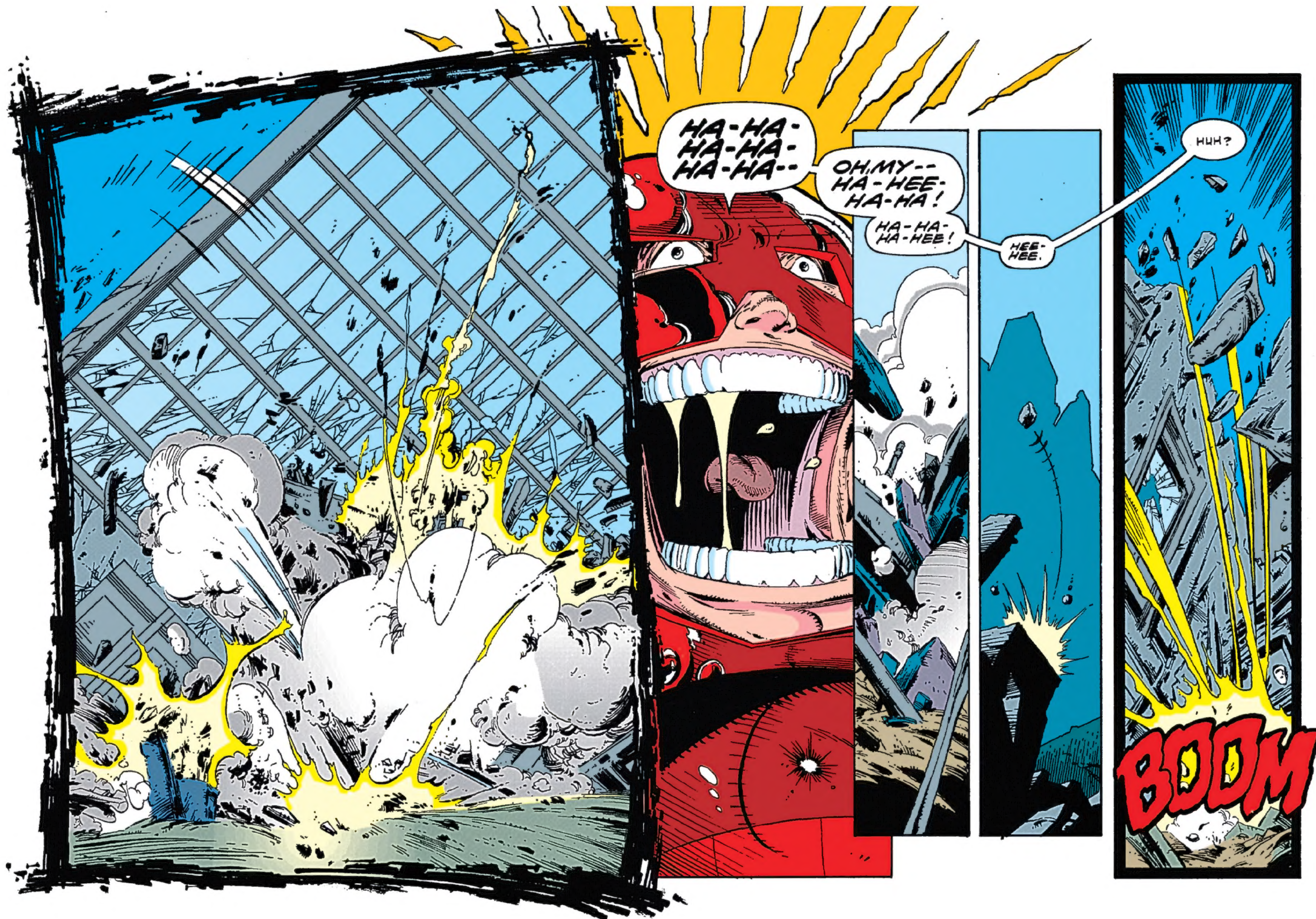
ESPECIALLY
SHATTERSTAR



WHEN I
FIND YOUR
BODY, I'LL
RIP IT FROM
LIMB TO
LIMB.



OH, OH.



HA-HA-
HA-HA-
HA-HA--

OH, MY--
HA-HEE-
HA-HA!

HA-HA-
HA-HEE!

HEE-
HEE.

HUH?

BOOM



TO USE YOUR
TIRED CLICHE--
IS THAT THE
BEST YOU CAN
DO?!!

WELL, NOW
YOU'VE MADE
ME MAD!

OKAY X-FORCE,
I'M RUNNING
THIS PARTY NOW.
IF YOU WANT TO
STOP HIM, THEN
I'LL SHOW YOU
HOW TO DO IT.

WITH
PLEASURE.

CONCLUDES IN
X-FORCE #4--
ON SALE NOW!
AND BE BACK
HERE NEXT
ISSUE FOR THE
DEATH OF
SPIDER-MAN!

TO ALL YOU READERS
OF THE PAST FEW
YEARS !! THANKS !!
IT'S BEEN A BLAST!!

TODD MCFARLANE